

WHERE TO WATCH THE ECLIPSE THROUGH CLOUDS, RAIN, OR SHINE P. 5

FREE EVERY WEDNESDAY

VOL. 26, NO. 51 • AUGUST 16-22, 2017

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the Stranger

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE TRUMP

ASTROLOGERS
PREDICT DOOM
FOR THE PRESIDENT
P. 6





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Volume 26, Issue Number 51
August 16–22, 2017



COVER ART

Connection from Phobos to Deimos
by **EUGENIA LOLI**
eugenialoli.redbubble.com

OPEN CITY

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

Ask for and dole out forgiveness ... page 50

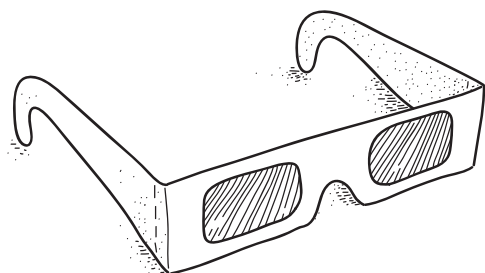
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OPEN CITY

Where to Watch the Eclipse: Rain, Shine, or Clouds

BY STRANGER THINGS TO DO STAFF



SEATTLE

Bryant Neighborhood Playground

This eclipse party is geared toward kids and teens, who can observe the 92 percent occlusion of the sun at 10:20 a.m.

Central Library

Hang out inside the library and watch NASA's live screening of the eclipse, which will include footage from spacecraft, the International Space Station, and high-altitude weather balloons.

Greenwood Park

Bring your own eclipse glasses to this viewing party put on by the Phinney Neighborhood Association. They'll also have pinhole boxes available.

High Point Public Library

Find out how to watch the total eclipse without damaging your eyes, then stay on to see it take place. There will be free safety glasses while supplies last. The event will be canceled if it's too cloudy.

Museum of Flight

This eclipse watching party presents NASA officials and a screening of NASA's MegaCast, which will include footage from spacecraft, the International Space Station, high-altitude weather balloons, and the Gulfstream C-20A Science Aircraft (stationed at the museum itself, so you can greet it as it returns from its mission!). There will be 1,000 free safety glasses (included with museum admission) handed out to the first arrivals.

Northgate Library

Adults and kids are invited to learn all about the eclipse, participate in hands-on activities, then watch it through provided glasses.

Pacific Science Center

On the occasion of the momentous astral spectacle, the science museum will open early for eclipse-viewing activities (included in museum admission). Watch the show through solar telescopes or safety glasses, or via live stream if it's cloudy. They'll also have hands-on eclipse demonstrations.

South Park Community Center

Watch the eclipse safely through free eclipse glasses—available while supplies last—and learn how to make a simple projection viewer. The event will be canceled if it's cloudy or rainy.

EASTSIDE

Bellevue Library

Get there early for free eclipse glasses. Kids

can make paper planes and try them out on KidsQuest Children's Museum's airplane launcher.

Redmond Regional Library

The library will have some free viewing glasses for the public.

DOWN SOUTH

Des Moines Library

Gather on the green outside the library to watch the eclipse through free safety glasses.

Great American Casino

"Get mooned in Lakewood" and enjoy refreshments, entertainment, and free solar glasses—included in the \$10 ticket.

Pierce College Science Dome

Learn about the solar eclipse before you see the sun mostly blocked by the moon. The Science Dome will have safe eclipse viewing methods on hand, stream the sun's disappearance live, and conduct pre- and post-event demonstrations and talks.

UP NORTH

Shoreline Library

Stand in the shadow of the moon, free eclipse glasses offered (while supplies last).

OUT OF TOWN

Central Skagit Library

This library is creating a little festival out of its eclipse-watching event, with free hot dogs and viewing glasses (while supplies last), a solar telescope, live streaming, a "Solar Walk," and, after the eclipse, a plasma ball and activities like solar energy explorations and sunscreen paintings. From 5 to 6 p.m., kids can hang out at a "Picnic on the Moon Pajama Storytime" with moon cheese sandwich-making.

Jefferson County Library

Pick up your free eclipse viewing glasses and watch the sky during the solar occlusion.

San Juan Island National Historical Park

Steal away to an island to watch the solar eclipse with San Juan Island Family Nature Club and other sponsors. They'll have plenty of methods to view the spectacle, plus solar print activities and renewable energy info.

Washington State Library, Olympia

Representatives of the Tacoma and Evergreen Astronomical Societies will share their knowledge of the solar eclipse before you watch it safely together. ■

I'm Not Actually General Lee

BY THE GENERAL LEE, COSTAR *THE DUKES OF HAZZARD*



CBS

Good day to you, mah dear suhs and mad-ams. And may I offuh mah humble compliments on y'all's balmy climes so late in the summuh. I do surely despair of makin' a damn nuisance of mahself, but if y'all would suffuh to lend an eah, I'd like to cleah the aiyeah.

Now, I ain't especially political, but I do read the papers and blowgs, and I done seen the deplorable business up in Charlottesville, and I done seen what transpired in Durham, and it got me to thankin' there was somethin' mah honuh demands that I declare:

Any association between me and mah late namesake's bound to be what

y'all Yankees call a misusndastandin'... I'm jes an old Dowdge Charge-uh, made in the yeah of our lord nineteen sixty and nahn, by the lord's good grace. What do I know about no War of Northern Agg—beg pahdon—Civil War? I'm a car! One of 300 on that set (which wasn't even in Georgia; twas Burbank, by God!).

Which remains me: I'm a TV actor! I played a character name of General Lee, but that don't mean I agree with the man's views! I didn't paint that vile insignia on mah own roof! How the devil could I? (No arms.) And anyway, they done removed it! I just went where they drove me and did my damndest to clear the river bank on them jumps.

T'aint no secret that the times we live in are fractious, so I won't take up no more of y'all's lovely afternoon, exceptin' to say this heah: I never meant to cause no trouble, and I hope when you go tearin' down monuments, you'll consider passin' me bah. Good day to all y'all.

I, ANONYMOUS

To submit an unsigned confession or accusation, send an e-mail to ianonymous@thestranger.com. Please remember to change the names of the innocent and guilty.

WORST CURSE

I was stumbling down the sidewalk in Lower Queen Anne. You passed me and asked, "Money for a diabetic for bus fare?" When I mumbled "No," you screamed at me, "I hope your baby dies!" My baby, who I hugged when I got home, is not dying. My dad, however, is being destroyed by brain cancer. Today, the doctors recommended halting his treatment and letting him go naturally. They gave us six months, tops—which is why I was numb when our paths crossed. So, lady, I guess you got me good. I would hope, in return, you are able to understand that everyone you meet is battling pain in their own way, and if you curse every last one who can't help you with a personal nightmare, eventually you'll get that wish. Congratulations and sleep well.

—Anonymous



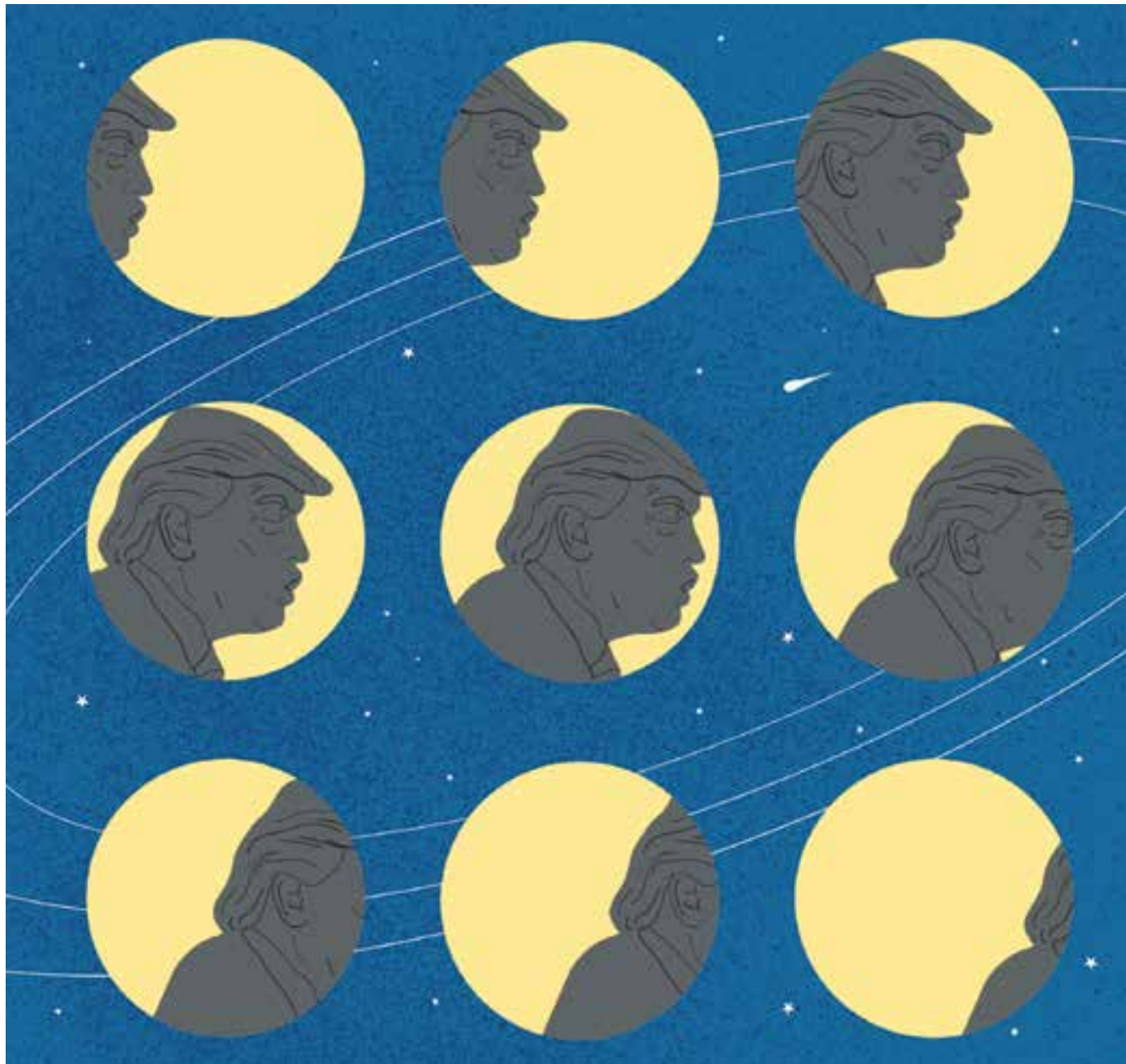
STEVEN WEISSMAN

Astrologers Agree:

The Eclipse Is Bad News for Trump

Astronomers Agree: Astrology Is Bullshit

BY KATIE HERZOG



On Monday, August 21, a shadow will stretch across the United States from Oregon to South Carolina as the moon passes between the Earth and the sun for a few brief moments. It's a big deal: It is the first total solar eclipse visible from the United States in nearly 40 years, and the first to cross the entire country in nearly a century.

According to astronomers and eclipse chasers, witnessing the eclipse from the path of totality—a 70-mile-wide band in which the moon will entirely obscure the sun—is a truly spectacular event. In Seattle, where we will see a 92 percent eclipse, the views will be good; in Central Oregon, the closest point of totality, the views—and the traffic jams—will be epic. The sky will darken, the air will cool, and for just about two minutes, you'll be able to see the sun's atmosphere from earth. An estimated 7.4 million Americans are predicted to make the pilgrimage to prime viewing spots to see it.

President Donald Trump, who likes to spend Mondays (and every other day) on the golf course, isn't likely to be among those traveling to the show. He'll probably be DMing David Duke from the 18th hole. But

that doesn't mean the show will miss him—at least, that is, if you believe in astrology.

If the eclipse is a big deal in the astronomical world, it's just as big a deal in the *astrological* one. Astrologers have long connected eclipses and other celestial happenings to events that take place here on earth. On her website, Virgo astrologer Marjorie Orr notes that several history-altering events have occurred near eclipses, including the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the assassination of John F. Kennedy, the attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan, and the impeachment of Bill Clinton.

Is this a coincidence? Science says yes. When researchers have tested astrology, it's never been found to be accurate. One double-blind study, published in the journal *Nature* in 1985, asked 28 highly regarded astrologers to match astrological charts to psychological profiles, and—surprise—they were no more accurate than random

chance. Other studies have replicated this. As NASA put it last year, “No one has shown that astrology can be used to predict the future or describe what people are like based on their birth dates.”

And yet, it persists. “There is a long history of people prescribing personal and political significance to astronomical events—eclipses

in particular,” said Julianne Dalcanton, an astrophysicist at the University of Washington. “It's a proud human tradition throughout the world and throughout time.”

Dalcanton said that she is a firm supporter of humanity's search for meaning in the world, but, she added, “is there a physical mechanism by which these astronomical events have a direct, measurable influence on the planet? Not that we know of.” In other words, it's bullshit.

But that doesn't mean that believing in astrology doesn't have real-life consequences: In the 1920s, astrology was used to predict stock-market highs and lows. In

If we're lucky, whatever shift Trump undergoes will be an improvement and not the start of a nuclear holocaust. Or a race war.

the 1980s, Ronald and Nancy Reagan employed an astrologer in the White House. In the mid 2000s, a girlfriend broke up with me because our signs weren't compatible (which, in retrospect, was true: We *weren't* compatible—she believed in astrology and I did not). In 2014, a poll found that up to 45 percent of Americans believe that astrology is an actual science—and that number is on the rise. The White House didn't respond when I contacted them to find out if 45 is a part of that 45 percent, but considering that Roger Stone, Trump's close friend and adviser, believes that the moon landing was filmed in a New Jersey warehouse, it doesn't seem all that far-fetched.

Whether or not Trump believes, some astrologers are predicting big things for him during this eclipse anyway.

“Even though he's a Gemini, Trump's ascending sign is in Leo, and he has a very strong Leo personality,” said Seattle astrologer Pam Youngmans, who has been practicing for 25 years. And because the eclipse falls between the 28th and 29th degrees of Leo, whatever that means, Trump could be especially affected by it.

No one, of course, knows what will

happen to Herr Trump during the eclipse, but Rob Brezsny, author of *The Stranger's* Free Will Astrology column (see page 50), said there could be a death of some sort—though not, unfortunately, a literal one.

“I don’t like to make absolute predictions, but this could result in an ego death,” Brezsny told me. “In a normal person, that could be a good thing, because it would relieve that person of illusions and delusions that he has about himself. But in Trump’s case, there could be a shattering.” The kind of man who reads a folder of positive reviews about himself twice a day doesn’t seem all that susceptible to an ego shattering, but, Brezsny added, “anyone else who is ridiculed as much as Trump is would probably have gone insane by now. The eclipse may portend a climax to the humiliation.”

“There’s nothing stronger than an eclipse,” said Susan Miller, the astrologer behind the immensely popular website Astrology Zone. Miller agrees with Brezsny that the eclipse may bring a scandal to light but, still, she thinks Trump may not be that affected. “Everything rolls off him,” she said. “But there could be some health issues that arise. His doctor may give him a stern warning not to eat any chocolate cake and to start working out or meditating. Although he doesn’t seem the type.”

Famed astrologer Chani Nicholas also thinks the eclipse portends something big happening in Trump’s life. “We might not know exactly what during the time of the eclipse,” she said, “but I would put money on the fact that this is an incredibly important moment in his personal life and his presidency. Maybe six months to two years from now, we will look back and see that something significant happened at this moment.”

If we’re lucky, whatever shift Trump undergoes will be an improvement and not the start of a nuclear holocaust. Or a race war.

As for the rest of us, Seattle astrologer Youngmans said that the weeks leading up to the solar eclipse are an opportune time to let go of bad habits and behaviors. “On a personal level,” she told me, “it’s a good time to do some clearing away. We don’t want to carry any of this crap into the future.”

Regardless of whether you believe that what happens in the sky influences life down on earth, if you are in Seattle, get some eclipse glasses and look toward the sky on Monday at 10:20 a.m., the precise moment the moon’s shadow will pass overhead. If it’s cloudy, there are still places you’ll be able to watch (see page 5). Astrology—and the president—may be unpredictable, but astronomy? At least we can count on that. ■

The Astrological Signs of Other Horrible People

Oh! You’re a Pisces!
Just like Mitch McConnell.

- Pisces:** Mitch McConnell
- Aquarius:** Paul Ryan
- Gemini:** Donald Trump, Mike Pence
- Taurus:** Adolf Hitler, Richard Spencer (who probably loves sharing a sign with the führer)
- Virgo:** Neil Gorsuch, Stephen Miller
- Leo:** Sarah Huckabee Sanders
- Cancer:** David Duke
- Aries:** Rex Tillerson
- Libra:** Milo Yiannopoulos, Vladimir Putin
- Scorpio:** Ivanka Trump
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(9/7) Daniel Handler with Sherman Alexie
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(9/8) Ann Powers
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The Summit on Pike, Capitol Hill

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(9/9) Town Hall, Gage Academy of Art and Winston Wächter Fine Art present
Zaria Forman
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Winston Wächter Fine Art, Downtown

(9/10) Saturday Family Concerts:
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Rainier Arts Center, Columbia City

(9/11) John Nichols
'Horsemen of the Trumpocalypse'
The Summit on Pike, Capitol Hill

(9/12) Jonathan White
'The Science and Spirit of the Ocean'
University Lutheran Church, U District

(9/13) Vanessa Grigoriadis
'Sex, Power and Consent on Campus'
University Lutheran Church, U District

(9/20) MIT Enterprise Institute, Seattle University, and Town Hall present
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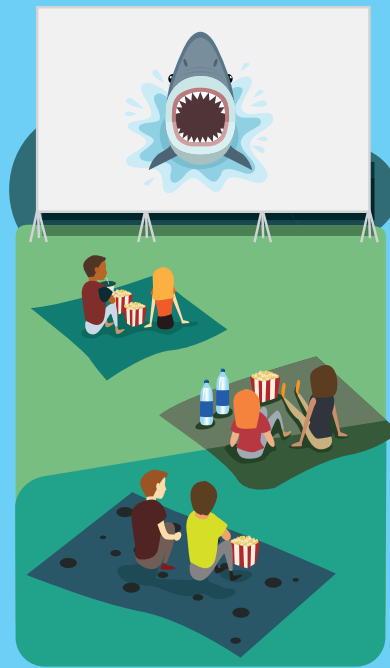
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A DISTANT RELATIVE DIED IN 1940 AND NO ONE EVER PICKED UP HER REMAINS—SO I DID

Thousands of unclaimed cremains are just sitting there at Oregon State Hospital. Are you related to any of them?

BY MEG VAN HUYGEN

I've never known much about my dad's family. He and I are close, but he doesn't seem to know much more than I do—from what he tells me, it seems to be a pedigree of hardscrabble lives and early deaths in rural Western Oregon. He never knew his paternal grandmother's name; she died before he was born. Dad also had a sister who was married with babies in her teens and who died suddenly at age 28, and someone once told me a *sotto voce* story about how the sister and a friend had gone swimming in a pond somewhere near the Hanford nuclear site and soon after their hair fell out, their organs shut down, and they died. When I asked an aunt about this, she said that's not how it happened. But she couldn't tell me how her sister had actually died, either.

This has all seemed just unfathomable and Carverian to me. How do you not know your own grandmother's name? Like, what needs to happen in order for that to happen?

A couple of years ago, I started to dig. On the Mormon-run genealogy site Familysearch.org, I found out that Dad's other grandmother, Myrtle, had a sister that nobody in the family knew about, Cleo Mae, who had grown up with Myrtle and their three brothers outside of Coos Bay, Oregon. Cleo was tricky to research: She married three times and changed her last name each time, so it was hard to know which name I was even looking for. But I finally found a birth-date match in Cleo Mae Connolly: She had been born in 1900 in Coos Bay, she had two kids, she'd died at age 40 in a tuberculosis hospital in Salem, and, according to some helpful nerd who'd inputted this into Findagrave.com, no one had ever picked up her cremated body. Like, it was still there, 75 years later, on a shelf.

For most of the 20th century, it turns out, Salem's Oregon State Hospital (OSH) was used as a dumping ground for unclaimed human remains from at least five area health facilities, in addition to its own crop. A bunch of these people had died at the Oregon Asylum for the Insane and were first buried in the asylum cemetery, until 1913–1914, when the asylum decided it needed the land, exhumed the bodies, and shipped them over to the state hospital for cremation. Most of their headstones were chucked on a nearby hillside. Once the bodies were burned, they were packed in copper canisters and stashed in a basement for about 60 years.

In 1976, OSH decided to move the whole inventory—the cremains of more than 5,000 people—to a designated memorial vault. But the vault leaked and the canisters got oxidized and damaged, many of them afflicted by galvanic corrosion—that powdery white/turquoise zinc buildup that you sometimes see on car battery terminals. Each can ended up with a unique corrosive bloom, depending on how much water had come in contact with it and also the distinct chemical composition of the cremains inside. The bodies have since been repackaged and rehomed in the hospital's "Cremains Room," and in 2007, the hospital began publishing the names of



STEPHEN ALLEN

GREAT-GREAT-AUNT CLEO IN A CAN She sat there for 75 years. Once I had her, I didn't know what to do. It felt rude storing her in my closet like an old bowling ball.

the deceased (you can look at the list here: oregon.gov/oha/OSH/pages/cremains.aspx) in hopes of persuading locals to come pick up their ancestors. There are still about 3,500 of them sitting there. And one of them was Cleo, my great-grandmother's little sister.

I know all this because artist David Maisel made a glossy coffee-table book as well as a SIFF-winning 2011 documentary, both titled *Library of Dust*, which tell this story and showcase some of the more visually remarkable canisters. It's also how I learned that the decrepit, crumbling Oregon State Hospital is where Milos Forman's 1975 movie *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* was filmed. Christ.

When I told my boyfriend, Stephen, what I'd found out about Cleo and the canisters and the hospital, he was like, "Uh, we have to do this." Thank god he just intrinsically knew that. Of course we did. The cherry on top was that we've been on a quest to visit every state capitol building in the United States, and we hadn't hit Salem yet. It writes itself, folks.



The paperwork was a pain in my ass. I first submitted a request through the OSH website in August of 2015, and didn't get a reply for months. Then they wanted a death certificate and proof that I ►



THE HOSPITAL IS ALSO WHERE THEY FILMED ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST.

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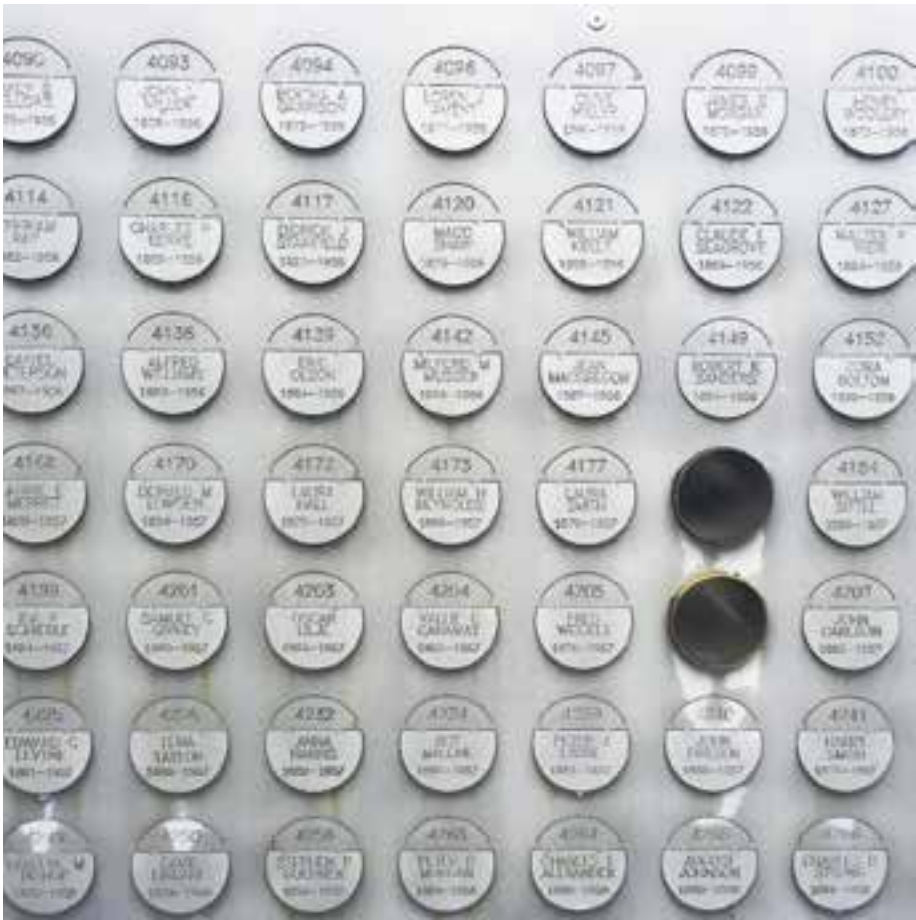
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STEPHEN ALLEN

3,500 UNCLAIMED REMAINS To see if one of your relatives is sitting here, go to oregon.gov/oha/OSH/pages/cremains.aspx.

◀was related to Cleo, whereupon it occurred to me that all I had no proof at all—just the word of some Mormons on the internet. Then the hospital was rearranging the library of dead people, so it wasn't a good time to come, and then I couldn't take the time off work, and then I re-contacted the hospital when I had time to make the trip and it was a new person and it took forever to get a reply, et cetera. It took a year and a half to set it all up.

We finally drove down to Salem last March. By now, more rummaging on Familysearch.org had led to this nugget: a newspaper article about Cleo, under one of her various aliases. In a 1924 article in the *Southern Coos County American*, Mrs. Cleo Winters, "a divorced woman," age 24, was picked up for committing several arsons in Myrtle Point, Oregon, outside of Coos Bay. She was spotted "at all the fires, either watching them intently or close at hand. It is the general belief that her mind has become deranged on this subject, inflamed by the liquor supplied to her." (It took me a minute to realize this phrasing was used because it happened in the thick of Prohibition.) Cleo was judged insane and sent to the state asylum in Salem—although she wasn't in the psych ward for long, because she married her second husband about six months later.

Oregon State Hospital is the best and weirdest museum ever, and I regret that we didn't have much time to futz around in there. The hospital has built a slick, somber memorial to the forgotten canned people, and it's an impressive spectacle: rows and rows of the old copper canisters on shelves behind glass, emptied of their contents, all decaying individually. It's installed in the 1890s brick outbuilding in which they were once stored. Enclosing the display is an aluminum parapet with the names of all the unclaimed patients and their serial numbers stamped into it, with a handful that were removed once the remains were picked up.

Cleo's name was missing from the little aluminum wall, and I silently flipped out when I noticed. Was she sliced out for me? What if someone else had gotten there first and claimed her?

But she was waiting for us. After all the intrigue and rigmarole, the exchange itself was pretty uneventful. I didn't even have to prove I was related to Cleo. I said who I was,

and someone came downstairs, handed me a cardboard box, and left. No "Thanks for picking up this inventory we've been storing for almost 80 years—we can really use the shelf space." No "Tell your friends with dead Oregonian relatives."

We stuck the body in the trunk of our rental car, toured the state capitol, and then drove up to Portland for the night. I waited until I got home to Seattle to open her up: Along with a bubble-wrapped cylinder of ashes, they'd given me the original copper can, which was pretty corroded, although I'd hoped for a super gnar one like in the David Maisel book. It's just okay. I am still glad to have a crusty copper corpse can.

I didn't really like having a dead lady in my new apartment, though. I don't believe in ghosts or any of that shit, but it just felt, you know, rude. This was someone's body, and she probably liked it and used it all the time, and I had a dumb sort of guilt about (1) owning it and (2) stowing it in my coat closet like an old bowling ball.

According to the internet, Cleo's parents, three of her siblings, and both of her children are all buried in a remote cemetery outside of Myrtle Point, south of Portland—a seven-hour drive from Seattle. Interring ashes is expensive, though, and even if I could afford it, I spent a good piece of time trying to figure out who runs this graveyard, and to all appearances, it's been... discontinued. Nobody works there. There's no phone number to call or anything.

So Stephen and I had the idea of going down there and just kind of like, uh, furtively sprinkling her around the family graves. It seemed like the thing to do, even though I'd heard it was possibly illegal. If we couldn't find the family graves, we figured we could stick her in a spooky hollow tree or something.



At long last, we made the drive to Coos County, Oregon, this summer and got her done. As imagined, not a (living) soul was to be found at the cemetery: It was a steep, wet field of disintegrating Victorian headstones on a hillside. Stephen and I split up and walked all over the damn cemetery for an hour but only tracked down one of Cleo's brothers' graves, none of her parents or kids. ►

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STEPHEN ALLEN

THE TREE HOLE *Don't tell.*

◀ Bro and his wife were in a wide-open field, not in the overgrown edges, and I still was about to pour Cleo into the grass next to him, but then we un-bubble-wrapped the package and found that she was inside of this kiln-fired clay cylinder with the lid baked on. I couldn't pry it off with anything I had in my purse. She had to be smashed.

I wasn't willing to make a big loud scene right in the middle of the lawn. Earlier, while poking around in a forest grove along the edge of the graveyard, looking for Cleo's family, Stephen had spotted a hollow tree limb with a conspicuous cement chunk-slab covering it, like a manhole. It was, somewhat terrifyingly, just what we'd been envisioning before we made the trip—our plan B if we couldn't find the fam.

We used it. I was squirrely about making noise, but we had to act fast because we were standing there with the trunk open and it was shady as hell, plus it was starting to rain, and I worried someone might be watching us on closed-circuit camera. I gingerly bashed the clay urn with the cement lid thing and poured Cleo's ashes into the tree hole and then covered it up again. I was expecting sand and lumpy bone fragments, because that's what you hear about with cremains, but she was totally pulverized. Flaky, like a burned Duraflame log.

The end of the clay cylinder didn't smash off perfectly, though—it lay half intact and half in 10 different triangles—and most of Cleo did not make it into the hole. There was a bunch of her still in the grass, among the shards. Stephen stared at the mess and muttered, "Dude. That is fucked... up."

I was like, “Quick, help me rub her into the ground so it’s not so obvious.” We kicked her ashes around in the grass a little bit, collected the smashed clay bits and stuck them in a Juanita’s tortilla chip bag, then hustled back to the car. I reassured Stephen that we were not the only people to pour cremains into a cemetery tree, probably not even that particular cemetery tree, considering that it came with its own lid.

It did feel messed up, what we were doing, although later I googled it and found out it's not illegal in Oregon to scatter a human's ashes anywhere you want. And I am okay in general with a body being left inside of a tree. Better there than pumped full of formaldehyde and left in a lacquered box. Or sealed in a copper can on a hospital shelf. Of the strata of messiness that Cleo dealt with in life, this seems comparably low. May Mrs. Cleo Mae Barkley Winters Eads Connolly—daughter, sister, wife, mother, Prohibition-era drunk, and serial arsonist—rest in peace, 77 years after she died, in the forest near her family and her hometown. Or at least until someone sets that tree on fire. ■



WEED

What Is Sessions Smoking?

The US Attorney General's Latest Bullshit

BY LESTER BLACK

US attorney general Jeff Sessions still hates weed and still wants to shut down the legal cannabis industry. In his latest attack, coming in the form of a letter to Governor Jay Inslee, Sessions writes that Washington State's legal weed industry is "incompletely regulated" and claims that pot has been allowed to fall into the hands of minors and leak out of our state.

He says our industry is in violation of the Cole Memo, a document written by the Obama administration that tells states that they can experiment with pot legalization provided they have a robustly regulated market. What's weird is, the Cole Memo is a nonbinding document that Sessions has the authority to tear up at any time. Why doesn't he just attack legal weed by saying everyone growing, selling, or consuming weed in Washington State is breaking federal law? He could file a federal lawsuit to shut down the state's pot market tomorrow. By saying that the state is violating the Cole Memo, even if he is only doing it to build a case against us, he is tacitly confirming that Washington can have legal pot if the state meets the Cole Memo's requirements.

He doesn't outright attack legal weed because the majority of the political forces in the country are firmly against him, and he knows it.

In May, Sessions asked Congress—in a private letter that was later leaked to the press—for permission to spend federal money on investigating and prosecuting the medical cannabis industry. Congress denied the request.

In July, a task force handpicked by Sessions to study enforcement of federal cannabis law recommended that the Department of Justice keep the Cole Memo in place. Many observers thought this task force was a sham commission created to feed Sessions a reason to attack legal weed, but even his handpicked committee couldn't give this to him. Sessions tried to keep the recommendation secret, but it was leaked to the press.

Now, faced with both the power to do what he wants and the understanding that he can't, he is trying to argue that legal weed is improperly regulated. His evidence? A report released in March of last year by a local branch of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) claiming that the industry is not sufficiently regulated, but that report is

biased and outdated.

The ONDCP, an agency created during Ronald Reagan's war on drugs, has a legal obligation to oppose any efforts to legalize medical or recreational cannabis. It would be literally illegal for the ONDCP to argue that pot legalization is working, so they produced a scathing report filled with distorted facts and questionable logic. The study looked at less than the first year of legalization, a time when state regulations and the market were still developing.



THE STRANGER

Governor Inslee replied to Sessions's letter by saying the report was based on "incomplete and unreliable data." State attorney general Bob Ferguson went further, telling the *Seattle Times*, "Honestly, it's hard to take him seriously if he relies on such outdated information."

In his letter, Sessions also wrote, "In 2014 alone, 17 THC extraction labs exploded," inadvertently making another case for the existence of a legal market. As Inslee and Ferguson replied, "In three years of legalization, no licensed extraction business has exploded."

Sessions can try to use discredited data to shut our state's industry down, but he isn't likely to get very far. Congress is not supporting his war on pot. American voters,

a majority of whom support legalization, are not supporting it. And the potential victims of Sessions's war on pot—the business owners in the legal market—are no longer the marginalized citizens attacked by Clinton, Nixon, Reagan, and both Bushes under their wars on drugs.

Attacking legal weed is attacking powerful millionaire executives with résumés that include huge corporations like Disney and Starbucks. It's attacking a legal workforce 10,000 strong in our state alone. It's attacking \$400 million in tax revenue from a state budget that is already strained.

And Sessions, with his slow and quiet Southern drawl, is being outplayed. ■

Sessions is coming after our state using data that's biased, outdated, and wrong.

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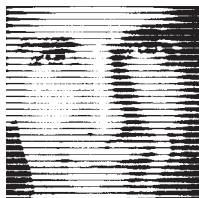
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SAVAGE LOVE

Quickies BY DAN SAVAGE

I've been wondering: Since there are lesbians out there who occasionally crave cock, does the reverse also happen? Are there gay men who occasionally crave pussy?

This Possible?

There are gay men who watch football—hell, I have it on good authority that some gay men play football, TP. So anything is possible. (Also, there are lots of lesbian-identified bisexual women out there, a smaller number of gay-identified bisexual men, and a tiny handful of bisexual-identified football fans.)

I've been seeing a lot of articles in the media about men “dropping out of the dating-and-marriage game,” and the conclusions always point to porn as the culprit. This seems like a simplistic explanation. Do you have an opinion on the effect of porn on men?

Pondering Porn

I dropped out of the forming-opinions-about-porn game—far too busy consuming porn these days, PP. It's the only way to keep myself sane here in Trumpsylvania.

I'm a 26-year-old woman. I started dating a fantastic guy a month ago, blah blah blah, we've already talked about marriage. The problem is that his dick isn't up to par size-wise or staying-hard-wise. He was aware of this before I came along, and it made him an enthusiastic and skilled oral performer to make up for it. So for now everything's great, plenty of orgasms, and we're lovey-dovey. But eventually I'll need that filled-up feeling and I'll have to ask for some dildo/extender/strap-on action. The question is when to ask. He's a secure guy, and we've both been honest about our flaws. If I wait too long to ask, it might make him think I've been faking the whole time. And if I ask too soon, I could scare him off or make his performance anxiety worse! How do I know when the right time is?

Half Full

If you were talking about marriage after a month, HF, odds are good this relationship is doomed anyway. So go ahead and ask for dildo/extender/strap-on action now. Don't say, “Circling back to your subpar dick, darling, I'm gonna need some compensatory dildo action soon.” Instead say, “I'm into penetration toys, and I'm looking forward to getting into them with you—getting them into me, getting them into you. Anything you want to put on the menu, darling?”

Two friends can hook up with a girl or two girls from a bar and have a threesome or a foursome. But can two brothers—with opposite sexual preferences—hook up with a girl and a guy from a bar? Would this be considered wrong? No touching between siblings would occur.

Basic Bros

It would be considered wrong by some—but those people aren't you, your brother, or the girl and guy you hope to pick up together. Personally, BB, I can barely get an erection if one of my siblings is in the same zip code; I can't imagine getting one with a sibling in the same room. But if you're comfortable doing opposite-sexual-preference things in close proximity to your brother, go for it.

I am a bisexual man and recently divorced my wife of 30 years. I am currently seeing a very beautiful lady. I satisfy my bisexual desires by going to sex clubs and I always practice safe sex. I don't have an issue, I just wanted to tell you I remember one time when you had a column about two guys performing fellatio on another man at the same time. I found it to be such a turn-on and even fantasized I was doing it to you. Hope that doesn't offend you.

Loving Life

Um, thanks for sharing?

I'm having an extremely difficult time getting intimate with my boyfriend of four years. I'm in recovery for an eating disorder, and part of my treatment is Prozac. It's working great and helping me make healthier choices. However, the Prozac is severely affecting my sex drive. I have little to no desire to have sex. And when we do have sex, I rarely orgasm. This is frustrating and, frankly, harmful to my recovery process. I'm already dealing with my shitty eating disorder telling me that I'm fat, ugly, and not good enough for anyone, anything, or even a decent meal. Now it's taking sex away from me, too? I also feel terrible for my boyfriend, who is endlessly patient and understanding but wants to have sex. I've suggested opening up the relationship for his sake, but he doesn't want to do that. I feel guilty and sad and frustrated. Any thoughts?

Prozac Lover/Healer

If the benefits of Prozac (helping you make better choices and aiding your recovery process) are canceled out by the side effects (leaving you so sexually frustrated, it's harming your recovery process), PLH, you should talk to your doctor about other options—other drugs you could try or a lower dose of Prozac. If you doctor dismisses your concerns about the sexual side effects of the drug they've got you on, get a new doctor.

I have only one concern about Donald Trump getting impeached: Do we get Mike Pence? Is he not just as bad? Or worse? On a more personal note: I don't think I've gotten a good night's sleep since Trump got elected. I wake up every morning next to an avid, Fox News-watching Trump supporter. I'm married long-term (35 years!) to a man who pulled a political one-eighty. This is about to make me crazy. Really. I'm not kidding. Do you have any suggestions for me? I don't want to DTMFA. Although after a most nauseating discussion over dinner, I did actually give it some thought.

Liberal Grandma

Mike Pence, as awful as he is, oscillates within a predictable band of Republican awfulness. The reason no one is getting any sleep these days—not even folks who don't wake up next to Trump supporters—is because no one can predict what Trump will do next. Not even Trump. That's what makes his presidency such an existential nightmare.

As for your husband, LG, your choices are binary and rather stark: Either you divorce his ass and spare yourself the grief of listening to his bullshit, or you stay put, learn to tune out his bullshit, and cancel out his vote in 2018 and 2020.

What's the best dating site for a slightly cynical, tattooed, fortysomething woman looking for a guy?

Tattooed Lady

It depends on the kind of guy you want. Closet case? ChristianMingle. Fuck boy? Tinder. Trump voter? Farmers Only. Compulsive masturbator? Craigslist. Unfuckable loser who is now and will always be a socially maladapted virgin? Return of Kings.

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• **Drink responsibly.** This goes without saying, but because we love you, here's a reminder: Be safe and smart with your Highball consumption, and never drink and drive!

• **Be patient.** We all need a drink (or 15) right now. But so do our friends, our neighbors, and our sworn enemies! So if a Highball bar gets slammed, or if there's a crazy line, or they run out of those little umbrellas? Be cool—we'll all feel better soon enough! And pay in cash if you can—it'll save time, and your server will appreciate it.

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Without further ado, here are those drink recipes. It's time for HIGHBALL!

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.5 oz Lime
1 slice Cucumber
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2 oz Soda

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1.5 oz Jim Beam
 .5 oz Egg White
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BAR CIUDAD
"NBD"

1.5 oz Sauza Hornitos Reposado
 .5 oz Mango Liqueur
 .5 oz Lime Juice
 Tamarind Jarritos
 Tajín Sugar (1:1)

Rim a highball glass with Tajín Sugar. Add tequila, mango liqueur, and lime juice to the glass. Fill glass to the top with ice. Add Tamarind Jarritos to the top. Garnish with a candied mango slice.

1210 S Bailey St
 Hours: T-Th 3pm-10pm;
 Fri & Sat 3pm-11pm
barciudad.com


THE WESTY SPORTS & SPIRITS
"On Borrowed Thyme"

1.5 oz Suntory Toki
 1 oz Agave-Thyme Syrup
 .25 oz Lemon Juice
 2 dashes Barrel-Aged Bitters
 Ginger Ale

Build all ingredients in an ice-filled collins/highball glass. Top with ginger ale and garnish with lemon peel & thyme sprig.

7908 35th Ave SW
 Hours: M-F 11am-2am; Sat & Sun 9am-2am
thewestyseattle.com


PALACE KITCHEN
"Dickel Tickle"

1.5 oz George Dickel Rye
 1 oz Blueberry Puree
 .5 oz Lemon Juice

Shaken, strained into highball with rocks, top with ginger ale.

2030 5th Ave
 Hours: Daily 4:30pm-1am
palacekitchen.com


EL CAMINO
"Tequila Old Fashioned"

1.5 oz Reposado Tequila
 1 Sugar Cube
 2 dashes Angostura Bitters
 Orange Slice
 Cherry
 Club Soda

In a bucket, muddle orange slice, cherry and sugar cube. Add tequila, bitters, ice and top with club soda. Garnish with cherry, orange peel and umbrella.

607 N 35th St
 Hours: Daily 11am-12am
elcaminorestaurant.com


DUMPLING TZAR
"The Southern Margarita"

1.5 oz Jim Beam
 .75 oz Triple Sec
 2 oz Lime Juice

Shaken and then strained over ice, then add salted rim and serve.

1630 12th Ave
 Hours: Daily 11am-2:30am
dumplingtzar.com


THE CARLILE ROOM
"The Suntwerki"

1 oz Suntory Toki
 .5 oz Woodchip, Clove, Allspice-infused Toki
 1.5 oz Rhubarb Juice
 1 oz Strawberry Simple
 .5 oz Lemon Juice
 Top with Soda Water

820 Pine St
 Hours: M-F 4pm-12am;
 Sat & Sun 10am-3pm, 4pm-12am
thecarlile.com


ART MARBLE 21
"Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?"

1.5 oz Hornitos
 .75 oz Lemon Juice
 .5 oz Agave Syrup
 .75 oz Egg White
 A few drops of 'Bittermens
 Xocolatl Mole Bitters

Scramble the egg by shaking it to hell. Garnish with a bordeaux cherry.

731 Westlake Ave N
 Hours: M-T 4pm-10pm; W-Th 11am-12am;
 Fri-Sat 9am-2am; Sun 9am-12am
artmarble21.com


ZANZIBAR
"Rat City Industrial Hogwash"

1.5 oz Maker's Mark Bourbon
 .5 oz Fernet
 2 oz Foco Tamarind Juice
 Quarter Lime
 Goya Ginger Beer

Muddle lime with bourbon, add Fernet and tamarind. Stir, pour over ice and top with ginger beer. Garnish with lime in a collins glass.

9609 1/2 16th Ave SW
 Hours: W-Th 3pm-11pm;
 Fri-Sat 3pm-12am; Sun 3pm-11pm
zanzibarseattle.com



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THINGS TO DO ARTS & CULTURE

All the Events *The Stranger* Suggests This Week

Find the complete calendar of things to do in Seattle at strangerthingstodo.com [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) Stranger Things To Do



Madame Butterfly
Through Aug 19 at McCaw Hall

PHILIP NEWTON

PERFORMANCE

Madame Butterfly

I'm recommending this politically perilous, imperialist opera based purely on the strength of Rebecca Brown's knockout review of it in last week's issue of *The Stranger*, and also to honor the dream Puccini weaves into his soaring and complex music. "You want to be politically aware," Brown writes of the opera's gross but extremely relevant premise, which has a white naval officer buying a 15-year-old Japanese girl for sex and companionship, "but also maybe you want to shut your eyes and forget the words and have the music of the East and West wash over you in the weird strange hybrid harmony where everything is distinct and itself but also together and blended in a way that Puccini, somehow like God on a good day, makes happen. You want to imagine a world where we're like that." (*Seattle Opera at McCaw Hall, Wed Aug 16, Fri Aug 18, Sat Aug 19, 7:30 pm, \$75-\$185*) **RICH SMITH**

We also recommend...

Bring It! Live: Moore Theatre, Sun Aug 20, 7 pm, \$42-\$63
The Comedy of Errors: Volunteer Park, Aug 18-19, free
Hamlet: Volunteer Park, Sat Aug 19, free
A Midsummer Night's Dream: Various locations, Aug 18-19, free
Nite Skool: Annex Theatre, Aug 17-19 7:30 pm, pay what you can/\$18
Over & Under: Annex Theatre, Wed Aug 16, 7:30 pm, \$10
Richard II: Various locations, Aug 17-19, free
War on the Catwalk: Neptune Theatre, Aug 20-21, 8 pm, \$35-\$161
WE ARE PUSSY RIOT: Or Everything Is PR: Theatre Battery, Kent, Aug 17-20, free

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

FOOD & DRINK

Highball Week

Okay, I know that Highball Week is our own event, and that recommending it might seem like blatant shilling. However, I

can assure you that my pick has absolutely nothing to do with that and absolutely everything to do with how wonderful it is that *The Stranger* has conspired to bring you cheap booze. The drinks, at such auspicious locations as Palace Kitchen and New Luck Toy, are only five dollars! That's ludicrous, because they all sound like very good drinks. As an adherent of George Dickel's lovely rye whiskey, you can bet your ass I'll be heading down to Palace for a Dickel Tickle. A Mezcaloma—like a paloma, but smoky!—at Mezcaleria Oaxaca? Hell yes. Let me reiterate, *The Stranger* loves you and wants you to be happy, so we got some sponsor dollars (thanks, Toki!) and set it up for you to get \$5 cocktails all week. You're psyched. When you have too many of them, please remember to drunkenly yell our praises to anyone who will listen. Also, to tip really well and take a cab home! (*Various locations, Aug 21-27, \$5 per drink*) **TOBIAS COUGHLIN-BOGUE**

We also recommend...

Ballard Burrito Fest 2017: Ballard Commons Park, Sat Aug 19, 11 am-6 pm, free
CHOMP!: Marymoor Park, Redmond, Sat

Aug 19, 10 am-6 pm, free
Happy Hour Food Walk: Chinatown-International District, Thurs Aug 17, 4-7 pm, free
Korean Fried Chicken Dinner: Babirusa, Aug 19-20, 5-11 pm, \$28
Latona Pub 30th Anniversary: Latona Pub, Aug 16-19, 6:30 pm
Pioneer Square Ice Cream Social: E. Smith Mercantile, Sat Aug 19, 12-8 pm, free
Redhook Brewlab Grand Opening Party: Redhook Brewlab, Thurs Aug 17, 3-10 pm, free
Sea Creatures + Chef Jeremy Sewall: Bar Melusine, Fri Aug 18, 5-9 pm, free
Sunset Supper: Pike Place Market, Fri Aug 18, 7-11 pm, \$175+

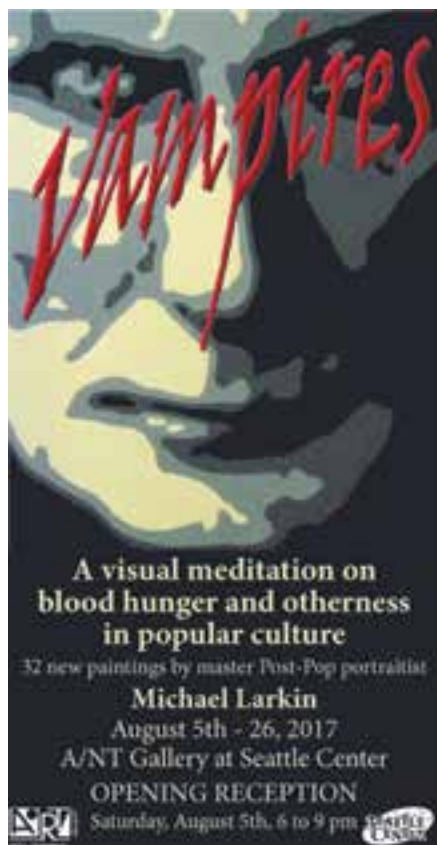
Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

ART

In the Spirit Northwest Native Festival

For thousands of years, the Pacific Northwest has been home to dozens of indigenous

Continued ►



VAMPIRES

A visual meditation on blood hunger and otherness in popular culture

32 new paintings by master Post-Pop portraitist
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THINGS TO DO **ARTS & CULTURE**

tribes and nations whose distinctive cultural traditions have persisted despite centuries of suppression. This year, the Washington State History Museum and Tacoma Art Museum join forces to produce this free, family-friendly community festival featuring singing, dancing, storytelling, food, a Native arts market, carving and drum-making demonstrations, and a Native designer fashion show. It's a great opportunity to directly support indigenous artists and come face-to-face with people carrying forward the ancient creative and spiritual traditions of the land we live on. (Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma, Sat Aug 19, 10 am-5 pm, free) **EMILY POTHAST**

We also recommend...

ART EVENTS

Cephalopod Appreciation Society 2017: Waterfront Space, Sun Aug 20, 12-2 pm, free

MUSEUMS

African Renaissances: Seattle Art Museum, Wed-Mon, \$20, through March 4

Amie Siegel: Interiors: Frye Art Museum, Tues-Sun, free, through Sept 3

Bowie by Mick Rock: Museum of Pop Culture, \$28, ongoing

Cut Up/Cut Out: Bellevue Arts Museum, Wed-Sun, \$12, through Oct 22

Daniel Minter: Carvings: Northwest African American Museum, Wed-Sun, \$7, through Oct 8

Denzil Hurley: Disclosures: Seattle Art Museum, Wed-Mon, \$20, through Nov 5

Doris Totten Chase: Changing Forms: Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10, through Oct 1

Electric Coffin: Future Machine: Bellevue Arts Museum, Wed-Sun, \$12, through Sept 10

If You Don't They Will: no. NOT EVER.: Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10, through Oct 1

Jacob Lawrence: Eight Studies for the Book of Genesis: Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10, through Oct 1

Kraft Duntz featuring Dawn Cerny: Fun. No Fun.: Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10, through Sept 10

Storme Webber: Frye Art Museum, Tues-Sun, free, through Oct 29

Summer Wheat: Full Circle: Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10, through Sept 17

Teardrops That Wound: The Absurdity of War: Wing Luke Museum, Tues-Sun, \$17, through May 20

Terracotta Warriors of the First Emperor: Pacific Science Center, \$35, through Sept 4

We Are the Ocean: An Indigenous Response to Climate Change: Wing Luke Museum, Tues-Sun, \$17, through Nov 12

Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors: Seattle Art Museum, Wed-Mon, \$35, through Sept 10

Year of Remembrance: Glimpses of a Forever Foreigner: Wing Luke Museum, Tues-Sun, \$17, through Feb 11

Zhi Lin: In Search of the Lost History of Chinese Migrants and the Transcontinental Railroads: Tacoma Art Museum, Tues-Sun, \$15, through Feb 18

GALLERIES

Aaliyah Gupta: Target: CORE, Wed-Sat, free, through Aug 26

BorderLands: King Street Station, Fri-Sun, free, through Oct 29

Closed Quarters: Vachon Gallery, Mon-Fri, free, through Sept 29

Deborah Faye Lawrence: Strumpet of Justice: BONFIRE, by appointment, through Aug 31

Einar & Jamex de la Torre: Prographica / KDR, Tues-Sat, free, through Sept 2

Guy Anderson: Paintings: Greg Kucera Gallery, Tues-Sat, free, through Aug 25

Leon Finley: Swallow Me: The Alice, Sat, free, through Aug 26

Markel Uriu: Detritus: METHOD, Fri-Sat, free, through Sept 23

Martin Lewis: Davidson Galleries, Tues-Sat, free, through Sept 2

National Heritage Award Artists: Mary Lee Bendolph, Loretta Pettway, and Lucy Mingo: Greg Kucera Gallery, Tues-Sat, free, through Aug 25

Out of Sight: Vital 5 Productions, Fri-Sun, \$10, through Aug 27

Patrick Kelly: In Time: Bridge Productions, Thurs-Sat, free, through Sept 2

Reduction Woodcut Masters (Contemporary Department): Davidson Galleries, Tues-Sat, free, through Sept 2

Untold Passage: Jacob Lawrence Gallery, Tues-Sat, free, through Aug 18

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

READINGS & TALKS

Matthew Zapruder: Why Poetry

If you're like anyone I've ever met in my life, you probably hate poetry because you feel like you don't "get it" or because you've dated a poet. If it's the latter, then you're lost forever to the genre and I can't blame you. But if it's the former, Matthew Zapruder is here to help with his new book, *Why Poetry*. The editor at large of Seattle's own Wave Books and the former poetry editor at the *New York Times* returns to the home country to knock back swill at the Sorrento and talk about how all your teachers taught you poetry wrong, and it's going to be a fun time. His readings on classics such as William Carlos Williams's red wheelbarrow enigma are inspiring and generative, as are his recommendations for new poets to check out. (*Sorrento Hotel*, Wed Aug 16, 7-9 pm, free) **RICH SMITH**

We also recommend...

Erin Jorgensen: Undertones: Northwest Film Forum, Sat Aug 19, 5 pm, \$12

Leanne Dunic: Third Place Books Ravenna, Fri Aug 18, 7 pm, free

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

FILM

Killer of Sheep

Some of the most powerful images in all of black cinema are to be found in a black-and-white movie Charles Burnett completed almost 40 years ago. (1) Boys battling with rocks, concrete, and cardboard shields, (2) a standing girl with a dog mask on her head, (3) boys standing upside-down with their legs against the wall of a house, (4) a car engine falling out of the back of a "skoroskoro" (a beat-up car), and, my favorite, (5) a young couple dancing to Dinah Washington's "This Bitter Earth." *Killer of Sheep* shows us the twilight of the black worker, the man who labored too hard for the small cuts of bacon he brought home. To obtain an adequate understanding of the film—which is about a sad man in a black Los Angeles

Continued on page 33 ►



MAP AND SCHEDULE INSIDE!

6 STAGES OF BANDS AND SPEAKERS

Stranger THINGS TO DO

Find more weed events and pot shops at StrangerThingsToDo.com

A poster for Queen Anne Cannabis Co. featuring a green background with cannabis leaves. On the left is a logo with a mountain and city skyline, and the text "QUEEN ANNE CANNABIS CO." in a stylized font. In the center is a circular map showing the location of Hempfest at 312 W Republican St, Seattle, near the intersection of Mercer St and Denny Way. To the right of the map, it says "3 BLOCKS FROM HEMP FEST" and "DAILY SPECIALS ALL WEEK AND WEEKEND". Below the map, it says "312 W REPUBLICAN ST QUEEN ANNE SEATTLE". At the bottom, there are social media icons and the website "queenannecannabis.co". A disclaimer at the very bottom states: "This product has intoxicating effects & may be habit forming. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, & judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of this drug. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. For use only by adults 21+. Marijuana products may be purchased or possessed only by persons 21+. Please keep out of the reach of children."

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What? HEMP FEST? Is that still going on? As Washingtonians continue to roll up to their favorite “rec store” to hook up with a fat sack or jar of herb, just across the Idaho border, someone is getting busted for pot and their life may be about to be derailed. And as our nascent cannabis industry evolves, smoke signals from our fearless leaders in DC continue to cast uncertainty on the stability of our dominant weed paradigm. It may all go away with the stroke of a pen.

That’s why the 26th annual Seattle HEMP FEST remains an amalgamation of protest and celebration, with equal parts call to action and cultural affirmation. Reform has come far, but we still have a long way to go. At the top of HEMP FEST’s 25-point platform are the important issues of legal home grow, public consumption opportunities, advertising equality for pot businesses, and equal access to education for medical marijuana patients who are minors.

A highlight of this year’s event will be an hour-long Main Stage tribute (Saturday at 7 p.m.) to the Standing Rock struggle, to complement the voices and music calling out for justice, opportunity, and access for all Americans.

There are many ways to support the HEMP FEST cause and keep the fire burning. Our Friday-night VIP Members’ Party is an exclusive on-site event that features an annual award ceremony, guest entertainment, and a cadre of notable industry luminaries. Also, HEMP FEST needs to fill as many as 1,000 staff positions—the protestival requires 118 volunteer crews, including first aid, safety patrol, traffic, and stage crews.

And HEMP FEST Central, our brick-and-mortar store in Lake City, features a variety of glass, hemp products, and more. Look for more info at hempfest.org.

There is no charge to enjoy HEMP FEST’s multiple stages, its lineup of free music (with acts like Naomi Wachira and Clinton Fearon) and speakers, and what might be the largest outdoor head shop anywhere. But we still need community support to survive. Seattle is experiencing unprecedented growth as Americans flock to the Emerald City, and that is bringing changes to local economies and making life difficult for free festival events.

After several years of asking for community support, HEMP FEST will be missing two of its traditional stages this year, including the 19-year-running Seeley Memorial Stage—a loss that hits us pretty hard, as the message is the mission.

Can you help a HEMP FEST out, and spare 10 dollars for a three-day downtown waterfront experience that you will not find replicated anywhere? We need to keep the urban campfire lit. Your contribution is a vital part of our funding model, as we have kept HEMP FEST free to attend all these years. Events like HEMP FEST, with zero mainstream corporate sponsorship, are only sustainable with attendee support. Please join us!

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

PARK HOURS NOON–8PM

Share Parker Main Stage		5:40pm Benjamin Cassidy	4:50pm Dr. Jim MacRae
Noon	Sacred Water	5:45pm Bailey	5:00pm Lizzy Rose
	Opening	Hirschburg	5:35pm Wes Abney
	Ceremony	5:50pm AC Braddock	5:40pm Kari Boiter
12:35pm	Danielle Muggli	6:00pm Cannabis! The Hip Hop Musical	5:45pm Aaron Pelley
12:40pm	Joelle Puccio	6:35pm Sara Batterby	5:50pm Matt Stang
12:45pm	Regina Nelson	6:40pm Reverend Cannabis	6:00pm AirportWay
12:50pm	Mitzi Vaughn	6:45pm Don Stevens	6:35pm Stinkbud
1:00pm	Swampmeat	6:50pm Mac McGregor	6:40pm Madeline Martinez
1:35pm	Doug McVay	7:00pm Bread & Butter	6:45pm Ben Droz
1:40pm	Lisa Buchanan		6:50pm Jared Allaway
1:45pm	Farmer Tom Lauer		7:00pm Chamber 6
1:50pm Dr. David Bearman		Seeley Black Stage	
2:00pm	Foreign Talks	1:00pm Honor Hall	Cavi Gold Stage
	Leah Maurer	1:35pm Leah Maurer	12:10pm Zeta
	Dr. Mollie Fry	1:40pm Brian Stone	1:05pm Midnight Lights
2:35pm	Patrick Seifert	1:45pm Jamie Shaw	1:50pm Danica Noble
2:40pm	Monte Levine	1:50pm Meagan Holt	1:55pm Kevin Oliver
2:50pm	King Khazm	2:00pm What Thou Wilt	2:00pm Method 13
3:00pm	John Conroy	2:35pm Kevin Oliver	2:35pm Elvy Musikka
3:35pm	Russ Belville	2:40pm Lori Duckworth	2:40pm Kristen Flor
3:40pm	Eddie Lepp	2:50pm Phil Charles	2:45pm Jesce Horton
4:00pm	Everybody Panic	3:00pm She Thinks I'm Alex	2:50pm Martin Martinez
4:35pm	Danielle Rosellison	3:35pm Susan Squibb	2:55pm Locust Grove
4:40pm	Ben Gelt	3:40pm Danica Noble	3:25pm Meagan Holt
	Grandma Cat	3:45pm George Martarano	3:30pm Jerry Whiting
	Jeter	3:50pm Jesce Horton	3:35pm Rene Gagnon
4:50pm	Ben Livingston	4:00pm Tiffany Wilson	3:40pm Wes Abney
5:00pm	Fabulous Downy Brothers	4:35pm Jerry Whiting	3:45pm Dead Horse Trauma
5:35pm	Allison Bigelow	4:40pm Renee Gagnon	4:15pm Clinton Dogger Mullins
		4:45pm Danny Danko	4:40pm Stinkbud

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- 4:45pm Ngaio Bealum
- 4:50pm Thunderhound
- 5:20pm Phil Charles
- 5:25pm Lori Duckworth
- 5:30pm George Martarano
- 5:35pm Danny Danko
- 5:40pm Yoshi Gish
- 6:15pm Dr. Jim MacRae
- 6:20pm Susan Squibb
- 6:25pm Eddie Lepp
- 6:30pm Michael Scott
- 6:35pm Lust Punch
- 7:25pm American Music

**Ric Smith
Hemposium Stage**

Moderator: Dr Dominic Corva
12:30 - 1:05pm Twenty-Two Too Many: Veterans Finding Hope. Michael Krawitz, Patrick Seifert , Aaron Augustis, Ellen Brown
1:10 - 1:50pm Hemp: The Super Crop on the Horizon. Joy Beckerman, Dave Seber, Ben Droz, Ah Warner
1:55-2:40pm Washington Cannabis Industry: Report Card. Danielle Rosellison, Douglas Hiatt, John Davis, John Novak, Neil Juneja
2:35-3:30pm Terpenes: What's that Smell? Understanding the Effects. Ben Cassidy, Alison Draisin, Martin Lee, Danielle Rosellison, Reverend Jeff
3:25-4:20pm Cannabis Extracts & Infused Products: Beyond the Flower. Ah Warner, AC Braddock, Reverend Jeff, Giana Lampreda, Sage Amdahl
7:00pm Speakers Social
8:00pm Park Closes
8:00pm VIP Party

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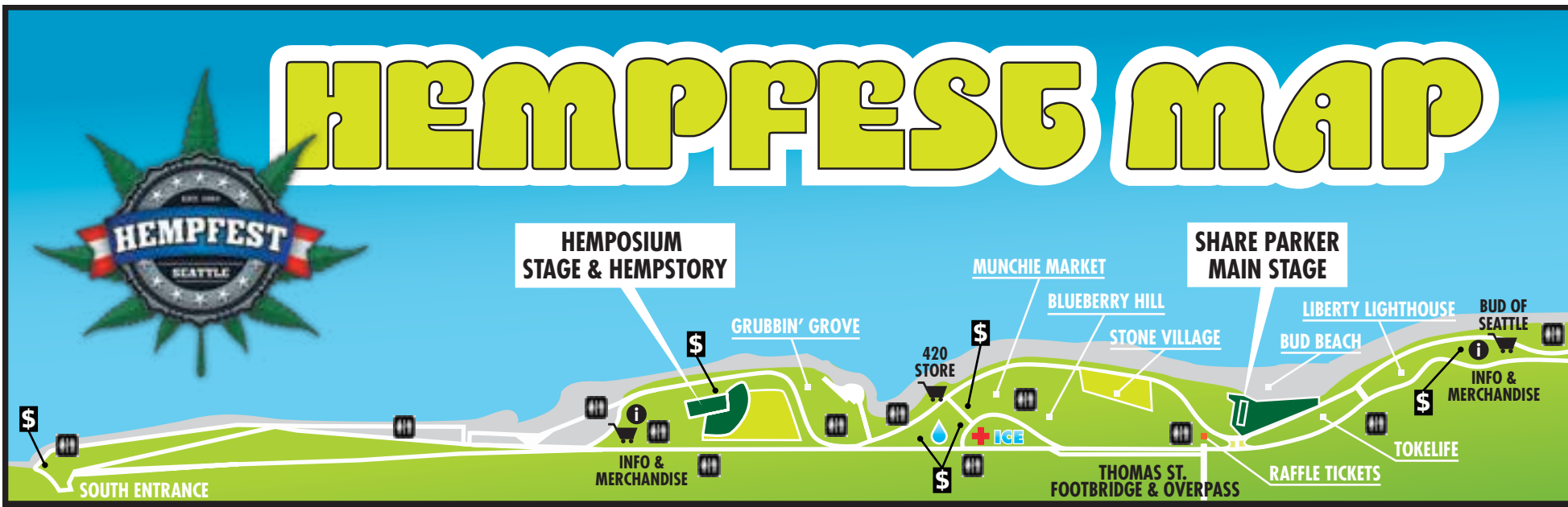
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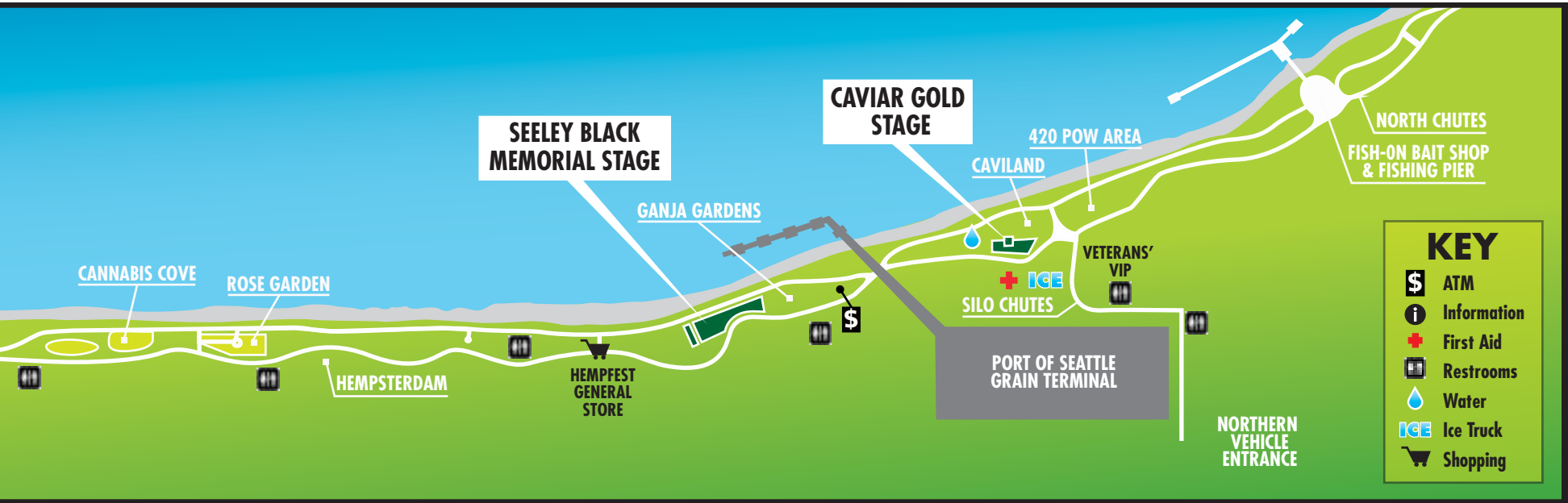
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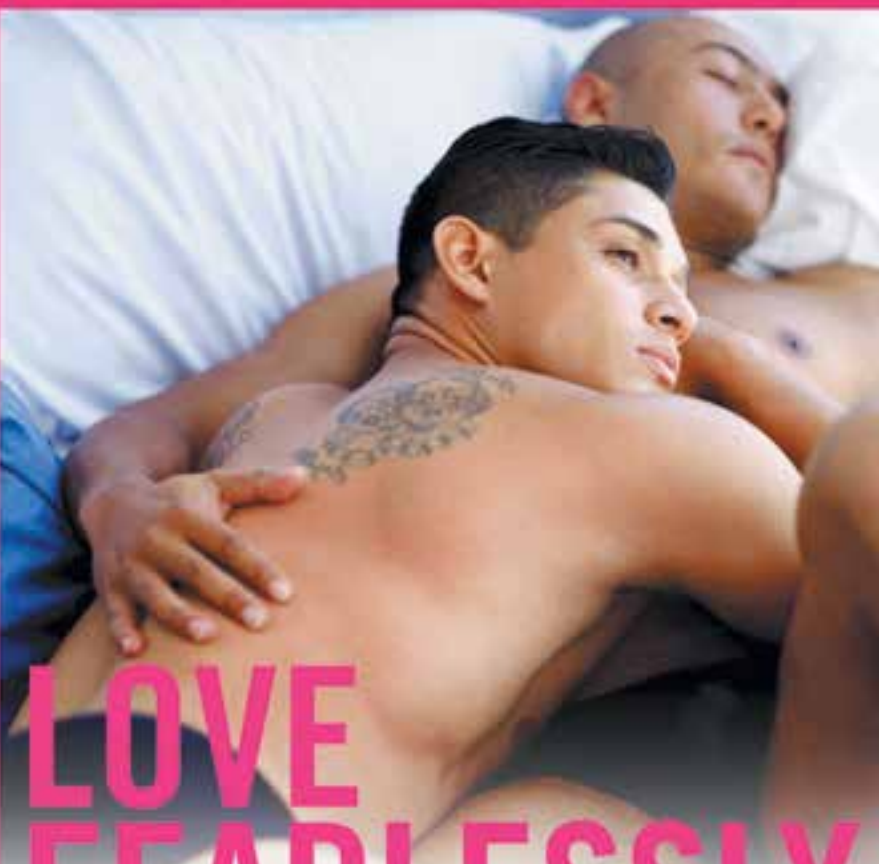
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

PARK HOURS 10AM-8PM

Share Parker
Main Stage

Noon General Mojo's
12:35pm Dr. Jake Felice
12:40pm David Seber
12:45pm John Novak
12:50pm Elvy Musikka
1:00pm Cannabis! The Hip
Hop Musical featuring
Soul Inscribed
1:40pm Martin Martinez
1:45pm Dr. Jim MacRae
1:50pm Michael Krawitz
2:00pm Andy Coe Band
2:35pm Leland Berger
2:40pm Serra Frank
2:45pm Jeff Steinborn
2:50pm Crystal Oliver
3:00pm Jamil Suleman
3:35pm Aaron Pelley
3:40pm George Martarano
3:45pm Danica Noble
4:00pm Herbivores
4:35pm Mikki Norris
4:40pm Kari Boiter
4:45pm Kevin Oliver
4:50pm Jerry Whiting
5:00pm Charlie Drown
5:35pm Ophelia Chong
5:40pm Alex Cooley

5:45pm Jade Stefano
5:50pm Alison Draisin
6:00pm Tim-Me
6:35pm Martin Lee
6:40pm Dr. Frank Lucido
6:45pm Jesce Horton
6:50pm Douglas Hiatt
7:00pm Standing Rock Tribute

Seeley Black Stage

11:00am Tribal Voices
Noon Oceans of Mars
12:35pm Speaker
12:40pm Danielle Muggli
12:45pm Aaron Augustis
12:50pm Ellen Brown
1:00pm Lee Eisenstein
1:35pm Sage Amdahl
1:40pm Stacy Bloch
1:45pm Michael Zabrek
1:50pm Dr. Mollie Fry
2:00pm Blue Lotus
2:35pm Joelle Puccio
2:40pm Dr. David Bearman
2:45pm Ben Gelt
2:50pm Vivian McPeak
3:00pm Kundalini Theater
3:35pm Russ Belville
3:40pm Farmer Tom
Lauerman
3:45pm Ngaio Bealum

3:50pm Ah Warner
4:00pm Neal Storme and
Amazing Friends
4:35pm Joy Beckerman
4:40pm Jeff Steinborn
4:45pm Rachel Kurtz
4:50pm Giana Lampreda
5:00pm One Step from
Everywhere
5:35pm AC Braddock
5:40pm John Davis
5:45pm Kat Bohnsack
5:50pm Sharon Whitson
6:00pm CobraHawk
6:35pm Leland Berger
6:40pm Don Stevens
6:45pm Serra Frank
6:50pm Shawn Denae
Wagenseller
7:00pm It Gets Worse

Cavi Gold Stage

10:00am DJ Famous
11:00am DJ Famous
12:05pm SL-51
1:00pm One Gun Shy
1:40pm Brian Stone
1:45pm Don Stevens
1:50pm Patrick Seifert
1:55pm Syko
2:30pm Jared Allaway

2:35pm Ellen Brown
2:40pm Mac McGregor
2:50pm M-Eighty and
CRUMBZILLA
3:25pm Joelle Puccio
3:30pm Kat Bohnsack
3:35pm Lisa Buchanan
3:40pm John Conroy
3:45pm BARZ!
4:20pm Madeline Martinez
4:25pm John Davis
4:30pm Ah Warner
4:35pm Jeff Steinborn
4:40pm Swisher Sleep
5:15pm Farmer Tom
Lauerman
5:20pm Rachel Kurtz
5:25pm Aaron Pelley
5:30pm Ben Gelt
5:35pm JL of Strange Music
6:10pm Joy Beckerman
6:15pm Sage Amdahl
6:20pm Giana Lampreda
6:25pm Danielle Mugglie
6:30pm MotaMouth Jones
7:05pm Dr. David Bearman
7:10pm David Seber
7:15pm Jamie Shaw
7:20pm Ben Droz
7:25pm Chris Crayzie
7:40pm Belle Rey

Ric Smith
Hemposium Stage

Moderator: Chris Conrad
10:45-11:30am Community
Organizing: How to Effect Change.
Lori Duckworth, Serra Frank, Mikki
Norris, Danica Noble, Shango Los
11:35am-12:20pm From Barely Sur-
viving to Thriving: Saving Terminally Ill
Children with Cannabis. Meagan Holt,
Dr. Sunil Aggarwal, Cat Jeter, Trey
Brown, Regina Nelson
12:25-1:05pm Inclusion & Privilege:
How Do We Make Sure No One is Get-
ting Left Behind? Jesce Horton, Jerry
Whiting, Ophelia Chong, Rene Gagnon
1:10-1:55pm Preserving Genet-
ics: Ensuring the Survival of Crucial
Cultivars. Jerry Whiting, Danny
Danko, Stinkbud, Shawn Denae
Wagenseller, Allison Bigelow
2:00-2:45pm Cannabis & Media: Be-
yond Stereotypes. Wes Abney, Doug
McVay, Ophelia Chong, Susan Squibb
2:50-3:35pm Surviving Legaliza-
tion: Cannabis Industry Leaders
Share Their Advice. Alex Cooley,
Rene Gagnon, Sara Batterby, Matt
Stang, AC Braddock
4:00pm Gold Bar
5:00pm Jordyn Cooper
6:00pm One Sultry Day
7:00pm Bongquistadors
8:00pm Park Closes



SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

PARK HOURS 10AM-8PM

Share Parker
Main Stage

Noon	The Queen Annes
12:35pm	Shawn Denae
	Wagenseller
12:40pm	Aaron Augustis
12:45pm	Jamie Shaw
12:50pm	Brian Stone
1:00pm	Tommy Gantt
1:35pm	Pete Holmes
1:40pm	Meagan Holt
1:45pm	Stacy Bloch
1:50pm	Lori Duckworth
2:00pm	Charlie and the Rays
2:35pm	Kat Bohnsack
2:40pm	Ellen Brown
2:45pm	Stinkbud
3:00pm	Naomi Wachira
3:35pm	Renee Gagnon
3:40pm	Wes Abney
3:45pm	Joy Beckerman
4:00pm	Clinton Fearon Boogie
	Brown Band
4:35pm	Ah Warner
4:40pm	Danny Danko
4:45pm	Ngaio Bealum
4:50pm	Giana Lampreda
5:00pm	Shyan Selah & The
	Republic of Sound
5:35pm	Matt Stang

5:40pm	John Davis
5:45pm	Susan Squibb
5:50pm	Katie Morse
6:00pm	NOUR
6:35pm	Phil Charles
6:40pm	Rachel Kurtz
6:45pm	Madeline Martinez
6:50pm	Sharon Whitson
7:00pm	Eastern Sunz
7:45pm	Sacred Water Closing
	Ceremony

Seeley Black Stage

11:00am	Tribal Voices
Noon	Elu the Dust
12:35pm	Speaker
12:40pm	Martin Martinez
12:45pm	Michael Scott
12:50pm	Regina Nelson
1:00pm	Slime Kings
1:35pm	Elvy Musikka
1:40pm	Benjamin Cassidy
1:45pm	Michael Krawitz
1:50pm	Speaker
2:00pm	Wild Ire
2:35pm	Magic Black
2:40pm	Speaker
2:45pm	Grandma Cat Jeter
2:50pm	Sara Batterby
3:00pm	The High Council
3:35pm	John Conroy

3:40pm	Trey Brown
3:45pm	Martin Lee
3:50pm	Eddie Lepp
4:00pm	Golden Toads
4:35pm	Douglas Hiatt
4:40pm	Monte Levine
4:45pm	Alison Draisin
4:50pm	Ben Livingston
5:00pm	Woodland West
5:35pm	Dr. Jake Felice
5:40pm	Allison Bigelow
5:45pm	Doug McVay
5:50pm	Mac McGregor
6:00pm	LiL Nate Dogg &
	Chucky Chuck
6:35pm	Bailey Hirschburg
6:40pm	John Novak
6:45pm	Patrick Seifert
7:00pm	Four Finger Ring

Cavi Gold Stage

10:00am	DJ O.B.1.
11:00am	ZeroPoint
12:05pm	TheSkyeMonkey
1:00pm	Space4Lease
1:40pm	Sage Amdahl
1:45pm	Regina Nelson
1:50pm	Vivian McPeak
1:55pm	Anti Hero
2:30pm	Martin Lee
2:35pm	Stacy Bloch

2:40pm	Ben Cassiday
2:45pm	Michael Krawitz
2:50pm	Rapper Kush
3:30pm	Monte Levine
3:35pm	Doug McVay
3:40pm	Allison Bigelow
3:45pm	Mac Duna
4:20pm	Sharon Whitson
4:30pm	Russ Belville
4:35pm	Grandma Cat Jeter
4:40pm	Ubiquitous of Ces Cru
	& Strange Music
5:15pm	John Novak
5:20pm	Jeanne Black
5:25pm	Trey Brown
5:30pm	Alison Draisin
5:35pm	Trick Candles
6:10pm	Douglas Hiatt
6:15pm	Kari Boiter
6:20pm	Ben Livingston
6:30pm	Chucky Chuck
7:05pm	Matt Stang
7:25pm	Hellderado

Ric Smith
Hemosium Stage

Moderator: Kari Boiter

10:45-11:30am Growing the Best Cannabis: Advice from the Experts: Stinkbud, Danny Danko, Jesce Horton, Farmer Tom Lauerman,

Jade Stefano

11:35am-12:20pm The Endo-cannabinoid System: Ask Your Doctor if Cannabis is Right for You. Dr. Sunil Aggarwal, Dr. David Bearman, Dr. Jake Felice, Lisa Buchanan, Dr. Frank Lucido

12:25-1:10pm Cannabigotry: How Stigma Still Hurts Cannabis Consumers in Legal States. Joelle Puccio, Madeline Martinez, Leland Berger, Phil Charles

1:15-2:00pm Industry Standards: Is the Testing Keeping Consumers Safe? Michael Zabrek, Kevin Oliver, Jim MacRae, Ben Gelt, Cyril Bouanna

2:05-2:50pm Washington's Cannabis Industry: Where We Are, Where We Need to Be. Aaron Pelley, Pete Holmes, Jim MacRae, Don Stevens, Crystal Oliver

2:55-2:35pm Cannabis POWs: Stories from the Front Lines. Dr. Mollie Fry, Kristin Flor, George Martorano

4:00pm The Insinuators

5:00pm Tim-Me

6:00pm The Requisite

7:00pm Theories Of Flight

8:00pm Park Closes

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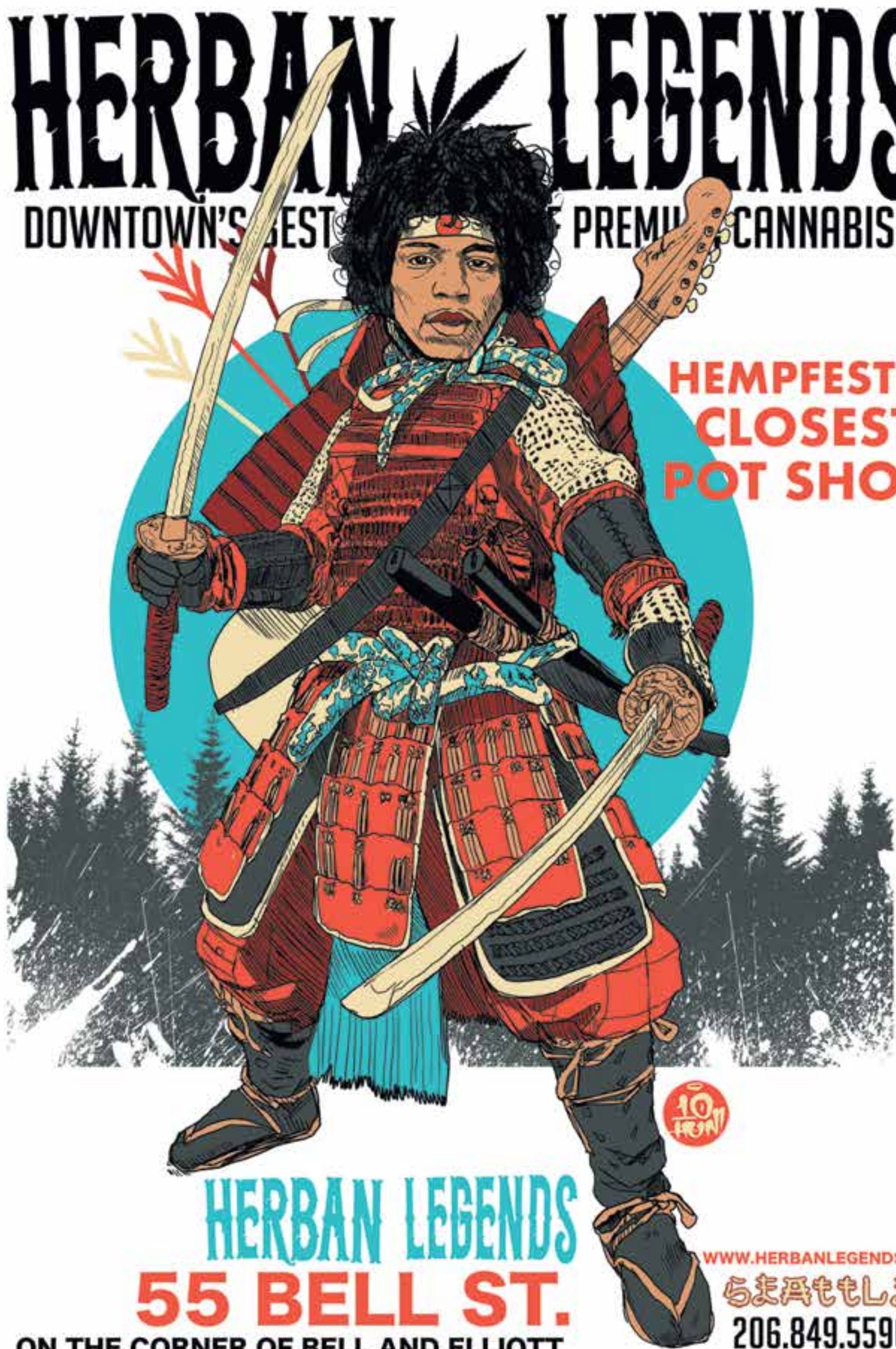
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THINGS TO DO **ARTS & CULTURE**

neighborhood who kills sheep for a living—you must watch it much more than once, which is why we recommend it every time it shows. (*Northwest Film Forum, Aug 17-20, \$12*) **CHARLES MUDEDE**

We also recommend...

A Life in Waves/Snakes: Northwest Film Forum, Wed Aug 16, 7:30 pm, \$12
Beers with Beth: Lagunitas Tap Room, Tues Aug 22, 6-8 pm, free
Bonnie and Clyde: Pacific Place & Varsity Theatre, Wed Aug 16
Bronx Gothic: Northwest Film Forum, Sun Aug 20, 4 & 8 pm, \$12
Carnival of Souls: Scarecrow Video, Sat Aug 19, 8 pm, free
Celebrating Cary Grant: To Catch a Thief: Seattle Art Museum, Thurs Aug 17, 7:30 pm, \$9
Dune: Central Cinema, Aug 18-23, \$8
French Truly Salon: Les Cowboys: SIFF Film Center, Wed Aug 16, 6:30 pm, \$25
Josie and the Pussycats: Pause and Draw: Central Cinema, Thurs Aug 17, 8 pm, \$10
Logan Lucky: Various locations, opens Thurs Aug 17
Moonrise Kingdom: Central Cinema, Fri-Tues, \$8, through Aug 23
NOddIN Japanese Films: Northwest Film Forum, Fri Aug 18, 7 pm, \$12
Peyton Place: Scarecrow Video, Sun Aug 20, 7 pm, free
Rifftrax Live: Doctor Who: Pacific Place, Thurs, 8 pm, through Aug 24
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Rendezvous, Sat Aug 19, 10:30 pm-midnight, \$12
Scarlet Street: Scarecrow Video, Mon Aug 21, 7 pm, free
Taipei Story: SIFF, opens Fri Aug 18
Three Dollar Bill Cinema: Parental Advisory: But I'm a Cheerleader: Cal Anderson Park, Fri Aug 18, 8:30 pm, free, through Aug 25
Whose Streets?: Northwest Film Forum, Aug 18-31, \$12

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

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We also recommend...

Sunday Gay Tea Dance: Eden, Sun Aug 20, 4-10 pm, free

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

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JANET FEDER
prepared guitarist from Denver

PAUL RICHARDS
guitarist from the California Guitar Trio

NORA GERMAIN
jazz violinist from Los Angeles

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THINGS TO DO MUSIC

Noteworthy Shows This Week

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WEDNESDAY 8/16

Pallbearer, Gost, He Whose Ox Is Gored

(Crocodile) It's a blessing and a curse for a metal band to receive crossover praise from the indie community. On the one hand, more exposure is a good thing. On the flip side, metal folks don't like to see their beloved bands find audiences outside of their inner circle. Much like Deafheaven faced the ire of black-metal purists in the wake of the melodic *Sunbather*, Little Rock's Pallbearer have faced some backlash for their sophisticated take on doom metal. And to be fair, Pallbearer's output may not be as earth-shattering as Cathedral's *Forest of Equilibrium* nor as grim as Burning Witch's *Crippled Lucifer*, but the finely woven melodies and deliberate steamroller crawl of albums like *Sorrow & Extinction* and *Heartless* deservedly resonates with the broader rock community. **BRIAN COOK**

Haunted Horses, Into the Storm, Webdriver Torso, Kihalás, To End It All

(Highline) As reliable as bad news appearing in your news feed, local twosome Haunted Horses return with another batch

of truculent, postindustrial punk songs on their *COME* EP. Drummer Myke Pelly and guitarist Colin Dawson never waver in their admirable quest to interpret the wretched zeitgeist with music that rails against corrupt power structures while simultaneously striving to level *architectural* structures. Seattle's Webdriver Torso are one of those classic male/female synth duos (see/hear: Chris & Cosey, Adult., Crystal Castles, etc.) that traffic in storm-cloudy tunes that make you feel exhilaratingly pessimistic. Despite the gloomy sonics and pitiless vocals, Webdriver Torso—singer GG and bassist/synthesis Alex Noelke—seem poised for a bright future. **DAVE SEGAL**

THURSDAY 8/17

Psychic Ills, Wall of Ears, Shit Ghost

(Barboza) Washington legalized recreational marijuana, and suddenly everyone in Seattle is a sommelier of weed. But it sure beats the old days of getting an eighth of mystery bud and rolling the dice as to whether you were going to immediately pass out on the couch or stay up half the night in a red-eyed panic attack. Now that you know your preferences for indica or sativas, you can more accurately dial in the chemical enhancement for your evening

entertainment. Like most psych outfits, Psychic Ills' music practically begs for intoxicated listening, but whereas many of their peers jam in sativic amplified ecstasy, the Brooklyn outfit zone out in a pleasantly languid indica plateau of simple, repetitive chord structures and modest auxiliary instrumentation. Adjust your head space accordingly. **BRIAN COOK**

Kid Koala, Blueyedsoul, Indica Jones

(Nectar) An unsung turntablism hero and UK label Ninja Tune's first North American signee, this Vancouver-born scratch master pulls the same sample-heavy tricks that made the likes of DJ Shadow famous, but stitches them into more introspective, even ambient numbers. Perhaps Kid Koala's music is driven by his penchant for drawing: He sketched two graphic novels, *Nufonia Must Fall* (2003) and *Space Cadet* (2011), and in 2009 pioneered "Music to Draw To," live events where he would play music while the audience was encouraged to sit down and draw rather than get up and dance. In January, Toronto imprint Arts & Crafts formalized that sound with *Music to Draw To: Satellite*, a dreamy album and the Kid's first in five years. **GREG SCRUGGS**

Studio 4/4: Damian Lazarus, Radio Slave

(Q Nightclub) Thank the solar eclipse for bringing so much revered international DJ talent to our front steps at a time of year when they can be making bank at an Ibiza residency or a festival in Croatia. With the Eclipse Festival landing a few hours away in Oregon, Crosstown Rebels honcho Damian Lazarus is making a pit stop at Studio 4/4 to bring his increasingly cosmic brand of house and techno, one that's evolved from the early-2000s UK club scene into sampling Pakistani Qawwali singers for his new Ancient Moons project. Expect an indoors warm-up for what will surely sound better under the dark skies east of the crest as the raved-up masses await totality. **GREG SCRUGGS**

Summer Slaughter 2017: The Black Dahlia Murder, Dying Fetus, the Faceless, Oceano, Devildation, Primordial Atrocity

(Studio Seven, all ages) This year's Summer Slaughter headliners don't get the respect they deserve. Brutal death-metal old guard Dying Fetus revel in their own anti-intellectual brutishness, but their licks require intense chops. By the way, they pull their mosh-pit instigations off with only three

Continued ►

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musicians. Their latest, *Wrong One to Fuck With*, matches its almost absurdist title with an overabundance of half- and quarter-time drops. The Faceless can't seem to nail down a lineup or finish their long-awaited upcoming album, but they now feature Olympia's Ken Sorceron on vocals. Regardless of their cluttered history, their 2008 masterpiece, *Planetary Duality*, remains a must-listen. Best, Detroit's the Black Dahlia Murder will play their unsung classic, 2007's *Nocturnal*, from front to back. **JOSEPH SCHAFER**

The Peacers, Lavender Flu, Dyed, Henry and the Looters

(Funhouse) If Peacers frontman Mike Donovan had released the band's second album, *Introducing the Crimsmen*, under his old Sic Alps moniker, casual listeners likely wouldn't have noticed much difference. Though his two-year-old outfit takes the same just-rolled-out-of-bed approach to acid folk as his previous one, he's now working with singer and guitarist Bo Moore (Bozmo), bass player Shayde Sartin (the Skygreen Leopards, the Fresh & Onlys), and drummer Mike Shoun (Thee Oh Sees). With an aesthetic pitched somewhere between Chris Bell's *I Am the Cosmos* and Guided by Voice's *Vampire on Titus*, the all-star lineup of Bay Area talent ably illuminates his conversational musings. Granted, Peacers dialed down the volume since founding member Ty Segall relocated to Southern California, but the vibe remains the same. **KATHY FENNESSY**

Quantic, Flamingosis, ¡Manos Arriba! (Nectar) Don't ask me how Will "Quantic" Holland does it. The British ethnomusicologist, who spent his formative musical years in Cali, Colombia, before relocating to New York, has released something every year, except one, since 2001. At last year's Manana Festival in Cuba, I saw him record an album's worth of material in three days of studio sessions with local musicians, all fueled by rum and cigars. His latest, *Curao*, pairs his infectious dub, funk, and jazz production style with the rootsy voice of Colombian folklore singer Nidia Góngora. It's the best of traditional music matched up with the digital age, all served on a tropical platter. **GREG SCRUGGS**

&Me, Pezzner, Recess, Succubass, Jon Lee, Doza, FooFou, Ramiro, WD4D

(Kremwerk) &Me—André Boadu—is a Berlin-based DJ/producer who's worked with DJ Hell and DJ T, so you know he possesses an advanced awareness of how to rock a big club... or a small bunker like Kremwerk, as the case may be. Boadu is a master of deep house with timbrally interesting percussion touches who can switch it up to techno when the mood strikes him (it had better in the mecca of techno-loving Seattle). The eight local DJs supporting &Me are worth getting to the club early for, as they have many decades of collective experience selecting records that inspire large groups of humans to move rhythmically. **DAVE SEGAL**

Sylvan Esso, Dana Buoy

(Neptune, all ages) Every new generation of college kids needs at least one party album

to rally behind. For my freshman year, it was M.I.A.'s *Kala* and Kanye West's *Graduation*—for this year's crop, it will be Sylvan Esso's *What Now*. Their electrified, multilayered pop is clever, bright, and fully hitched to dance as a primary activity in a way that feels much like two-dimensional worship. Preaching a lifestyle adjacent to “the power of dance heals all” is a little #LoveWins for my taste, but Sylvan Esso manage to carry their music through these lyrical tropes with a strength of conviction that is truly impressive (and occasionally beguiling). And hey—who am I to shit on such an active joy? **KIM SELLING**

Washed Out, DEGA

(Showbox, all ages) Ernest Greene, the Athens, Georgia, producer/singer known as Washed Out, has been able to retain his spot atop Chill Mountain through the retention of the flip-flop disco aesthetic and his self-abasing sense of humor. This summer's *Mister Mellow*, an album whose cover image includes a stoned-looking Big Bird wearing a trucker cap with "CHILLWAVE" written across the front, is laced with so many low-pitch audio snippets of burnouts giving stress-relief advice, it borders on concept album. But if he's hitting us over the head with pastiche, it's only for effect; Greene is an intelligent producer whose talent has become the blending of emotive backing tracks with parodic contextualization of those tracks. It's the kind of endlessly pleasing RDM (relaxed dance music) we've come to expect, bundled with the self-aware sarcasm we deserve. **TODD HAMM**

HIGHLINE

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Into The Storm
Webdriver Torso
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Friday, August 18
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Sunday, August 20
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7PM \$12

Friday, August 25
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8/20 CRYSTAL BRIGHT AND THE SILVER HANDS

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10/1 CITIZENS
10/13 THE GHOST OF PAUL REVERE AND THE LAST REVEL
10/20 BEN GLEIB
10/25 PENNY & SPARROW

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THINGS TO DO MUSIC

SUNDAY 8/20

Gordon Ashworth, Soft Urns, Redneck, Primordial Wound
(Rendezvous) Portland's Gordon Ashworth is one of the Northwest's premier drone-mongers, as well as an unconventional folk guitarist of compelling nuance. He imbues his drones with subtle electroacoustic embellishments, keeping you both in the zone and tantalized by sly disruptions. If No-Neck Blues Band were still touring, Ashworth would make for an ideal opener. Seattle composer Garek Jon Druss—who recently returned to the city after a lengthy stint in England—busts out his Soft Urns project tonight. Perhaps best known for his work in the bleakly gripping experimental outfits a Story of Rats and Dull Knife, Druss—judging from the small sample I've heard—finesses his material to chthonic depths in Soft Urns, generating a kind of finely sculpted noise music. It's an intelligently hostile sound. **DAVE SEGAL**

The Warlocks, Matt Hollywood & the Bad Feelings, Super 78
(Barboza) The Warlocks are psych-rock lifers who almost never veer from the path of the Velvet Underground/Spacemen 3/Brian Jonestown Massacre continuum. They've figured out that a group can enjoy a lengthy, half-decent career spinning countless variations on a slackly chugging jams embellished by judiciously FX'd guitars and drawling vocals. Instructive song title: "We Took All the Acid." Speaking of BJM, guitarist/vocalist Matt Hollywood's main claim to fame is playing

with those notorious psych-rock pasticheurs and fighting onstage with that band's leader, Anton Newcombe. (I've not heard Hollywood's other projects, the Out Crowd and Rebel Drones, but their names promise goodness.) Anyway, his latest music with the Bad Feelings rambles and chimes in similar straight-ahead garage-psych realms as BJM, but probably with fewer mid-song hissy fits. **DAVE SEGAL**

2 Chainz, Young Dolph, Trap Karaoke
(Showbox Sodo, all ages) Here's something you might not know about 2 Chainz: He recently turned the iconic pink house from the cover of his newest album, *Pretty Girls Like Trap Music*, into a temporary HIV testing center. It's just another example of how the 39-year-old rapper, formerly known as Tity Boi, continues to stay atop the rap game for most of this decade by never forgetting his roots, ever since releasing the smash hit-filled *Based on a T.R.U. Story* in 2012. *Pretty Girls* is his fourth full-length effort, and while it doesn't see 2 Chainz reinventing the wheel—there are still plenty of ominously minimal trap beats with the rapper's booming voice carrying every song—it's full of party-starting anthems. 2 Chainz will be bringing his set of hits old and new alongside Memphis lyricist Young Dolph, best known for his feature on O.T. Genasis's chart-topping "Cut It." **NICK ZURKO**

MONDAY 8/21

Kevin Morby, Shannon Lay
(Tractor, Aug 20–21) Kevin Morby's music has a way of sneaking up on you. After playing in buzzy NYC bands in the '00s (Woods, the

Babies), the Kansas City–raised artist went solo and has released four albums of ambling, patient songwriter material since 2013. It's subtle, spacious music that draws from Laurel Canyon folk, early 1970s songwriter fare, and (that old standby) CSN&Y. But in the modern indie landscape, his contemporaries are artists like Cass McCombs, Kurt Vile, and Angel Olsen—songwriters whose work is easier defined through personal idiosyncrasies than genre constraints. Morby's drawling, weary baritone and pleasantly meandering songs are the mark of an artist who doesn't clamor for the listener's attention, but gradually invites her in. **ANDREW GOSPE**

TUESDAY 8/22

Otis Taylor Band
(Jazz Alley, all ages, Aug 22–23) My introduction to Otis Taylor was his third album, 2001's *White African*. He's from Colorado, but he took hill-country blues to heart, droning wickedly and refusing to change chords, except exactly where it would break the listener's mind. He sang in the voice of a black man framed for a murder, lynched, doomed to roam railroad tracks and the wilderness alongside them as a ghost, trying in vain—and already losing hope—that anyone would ever hear. Well, that cost me a few winks. The new album is called *Fantasizing About Being Black*, so his humor is still obstinately corrosive, and over the years he's added drums, trumpet, a few other not-strictly-blues touches. But he's still singing about death. About running, running, and don't look back unless you want to see your last muzzle flash. **ANDREW HAMLIN**



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8/18 FRIDAY		Best of the NW Tribute presents: A Night of Seattle Music Outshined (Soundgarden & Temple of the Dog Tribute), Washed In Black (Pearl Jam Tribute), Stargazer (Mother Love Bone Tribute) 21 and over
8/19 SATURDAY		The Crocodile Presents: D'Madd Ahmed, Isaiah Hogan, Huey P, Wanz 21 and over
8/21 MONDAY		The Crocodile Presents: David Cook Kathryn Dean 21 and over
8/22 TUESDAY		The Crocodile Presents: The Rocket Summer "Do You Feel" 10 Year Anniversary Tour 888 All ages

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THURSDAY 8/31
SASSYBLACK

FRIDAY 9/1
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WILLIAM CONTROL + JACK BRUNO

TUESDAY 9/5
QUICKSAND
NO JOY

WEDNESDAY 9/13
PUP

FRIDAY 9/15
RAC

BARBOZA
COMING UP NEXT

THURSDAY 8/17
PSYCHIC ILLS
WALL OF EARS

FRIDAY 8/18
AVATAR DARKO
RAZ SIMONE + JARV DEE

SUNDAY 8/20
THE WARLOCKS
MATT HOLLYWOOD & THE BAD FEELINGS + SUPER 78

WEDNESDAY 8/23
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Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian-Italian-American, born in Oakland, Sammy Obeid is best known for his 1,001 day streak of consecutive comedy performances, including both the CoExist Comedy and Axis of Evil: New Generation national tours. Capping the streak, his debut album, *Get Funny or Die Trying*, was named a Best Comedy Album by iTunes.



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WED 8/16

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Perfect Families, SHIVERTWINS, Cloud Person, Black Giraffe, Vinyl Church DJs, 7:30 pm, \$8/\$10
CHIHUZY GARDEN AND GLASS Winding Hearts, 5:30-7 pm, \$29
CHOP SUEY Burning Palms, Killer Ghost, Grey Waves, 8 pm, \$8
CONOR BYRNE The Foghorns, Cola, Levi Fuller & The Library, 8-11 pm, \$8
THE FUNHOUSE Communist Eyes, Clint Westwood, The Emerald City Rebel, Bog, 8 pm, \$6/\$8
HIGHWAY 99 The Fabulous Roof Shakers, 8 pm, \$7
JAZZ ALLEY Freddie Jackson, 7:30 pm, \$41.50
NECTAR Planet Booty, Richie Aldente, Quinn & the Together Collective, 8 pm, \$7/\$10
THE ROYAL ROOM Funk Church, 10 pm, free; Allegra Levy with Carmen Staaf, 8 pm, \$10/\$15
SUBSTATION Argan Band, jESSO Afrojam Funkbeat, Jah Remedi, 8 pm, \$8
SUNSET TAVERN Tyler Childers with Eddie Berman, 9 pm, \$10
TIMBRE ROOM Crybaby Studios Monthly Show: The White Tears, Miscomings, Quid Quo, 9 pm-midnight, \$5
UNION SQUARE Headwaves, 12-1:30 pm, free
UNIVERSITY VILLAGE Sounds of Summer Concert Series, 7-8:30 pm, free
VERA PROJECT Tyto Alba, Tincho, Wild English, Season of Strangers, 8 pm, \$8
WAMU THEATER Rancid & Dropkick Murphys, 6:30 pm, \$32

JAZZ
THE ROYAL ROOM Allegra Levy with Carmen Staaf, 8 pm, \$10/\$15
TIM'S TAVERN Jazz Night with Stuart McDonald, 8 pm, free
VITO'S Brad Gibson Presents, 9 pm

DJ
CONTOUR Depth, 9 pm, free
THE EAGLE MENERGY, 9 pm-2 am, free
FOUNDATION SUBstance Wednesdays, 10 pm, \$0-10
LO-FI Loving Touch, 9 pm-2 am, free
NEIGHBOURS Level Up 18+: DJ ALO, 9 pm, Free/\$10

THE CLOUD ROOM White Baby Grand Series with Shenandoah Davis & Friends, 5:30-7:30 pm
CROCODILE Tim Moyer, Will Champlin, Chi McClean, 7 pm, \$15; Katastro, 8 pm, \$12
FRED WILDLIFE REFUGE DMM Benefit Show for the Washington Environmental Coalition, 8 pm, \$7
FREMONT ABBEY Summer Benefit Show for Washington Trails Association, 8 pm, \$10-\$15
THE FUNHOUSE The Delta Bombers, The Hard Fall Hearts, Stoned Evergreen Travelers, Redneck Girlfriend, Jamie Nova, 8 pm, \$10/\$12
GALLERY 1412 Matt Weston, Liquid Letters, Abramson-Kelley-Shook, 8-11 pm
HIGH DIVE Marmalade, 8 pm, \$6
HIGHWAY 99 Trailer Park Kings, 8 pm, \$7
JAZZ ALLEY Mark O'Connor with the O'Connor Band, 7:30 pm, \$41.50
LO-FI Glacial Fall, Star Meets The Sea, 8 pm
NEUMOS Guantanamo Baywatch, Dreamdecay, Steel Shit Do Drugs, 8 pm, \$12/\$15
SUNSET TAVERN 31: Songs of R.E.M., 9 pm, \$10
TIM'S TAVERN Welcome Strangers, The Blue Tide, Daniels Duo, 9 pm-midnight, free
TIMBRE ROOM Walter TV, Eola, Versing, 8-11 pm, \$10/\$12
TRACTOR TAVERN ReBirth Brass Band, 9 pm, \$25
TRIPLE DOOR AMANDALA, 7:30 pm, \$15/\$18

Cosmos, 12-1:30 pm, free

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★ **TIMBRE ROOM** Walter TV, Eola, Versing, 8-11 pm, \$10/\$12

★ **TRACTOR TAVERN** ReBirth Brass Band, 9 pm, \$25

★ **TRIPLE DOOR** AMANDALA, 7:30 pm, \$15/\$18

JAZZ
BARCA Jazz at Barca, 9 pm-midnight, free
TULA'S Fred Hoadley's Sonando, 8 pm, \$10

DJ
CONTOUR Jaded, 9 pm, free
GRIM'S Special Blends, 8 pm-2 am, free
HAVANA Sophisticated Mama, 9 pm, free
KREMWERK Compound Records Seattle Presents Contact: Empress, 9 pm, \$8
R PLACE Thirsty Thursdays, 9 pm, free
TIMBRE ROOM BUTT DAY, 5-9 pm, free
TRINITY Beer Pong Thursdays, 9 pm-12 am, free

CLASSICAL/OPERA
CHAPEL PERFORMANCE SPACE Tiny Orchestral Moments, 8 pm, \$5/\$15

FRI 8/18

LIVE MUSIC
★ **BLACK LODGE** Priests, Lithics, Casual Hex, Sleepover Club, 8-11 pm, \$10/\$12
BLUE MOON TAVERN La Cerca, This Blinding Light, Red Ribbon, Low Hums, 8:30 pm
CENTRAL SALOON Golden Gardens, Sunmonks, General Mojo's, 8-11 pm, \$7/\$10
CHAPEL PERFORMANCE SPACE Tiny Orchestral Moments, 8 pm, \$5/\$15
CHOP SUEY Doll Skin, Next to None, 7 pm, \$10/\$12
CITY HALL PLAZA

ASTON MANOR House Party Fridays, 10 pm-2 am, \$20
EL CORAZON Two Story Zori with Guests, 10 pm, free
FOUNDATION Resonate Fridays, 9 pm-2 am, \$15-\$30
HAVANA Viva Havana, 9 pm, \$15
NEIGHBOURS Absolut Fridays, 9 pm-4 am, \$5
PONY Sweat, 9 pm-2 am
Q NIGHTCLUB Madness: Nukid, 10 pm-2 am, \$15
R PLACE Transcendence: with DJ E, 9:30 pm, free
STUDIO SEVEN Electric Fridays, 10 pm-2 am, \$0-\$20
THERAPY LOUNGE Nostalgia, 10 pm
TIMBRE ROOM Foolish Fridays, 10 pm-2:30 am, \$7
TRINITY Massive Fridays, free
VERMILLION Wildstyle, 10 pm, free; Session Fridays, 10 pm-2 am, free

WED 8/16

WED 8/16

WED 8/16

WED 8/16

White Light, Old Kingdom, 8 pm-midnight, \$5/\$8

★ **CHAPEL PERFORMANCE** SPACE Daryl Seaver, Cameron Shafii, RM Francis, 8 pm, \$10/\$15

CONOR BYRNE Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio, 9 pm-midnight, \$8

CROCODILE A Tribute to Seattle Music, 7 pm, \$15

EL CORAZON Two Story Zori with Guests, 10 pm, free

HIGH DIVE The Highsteppers, The Sextones, Richie Dagger's Crime, 8 pm, \$8/\$12

HIGHWAY 99 Mark Dufresne Band, 8 pm, \$16

★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Mark O'Connor with the O'Connor Band, 9:30 pm, \$41.50

★ **MURAL AMPHITHEATRE** Thunderpussy, Surprise Guest, the Courtneys, 5:30 pm, free

★ **NEPTUNE THEATRE** Sylvan Esso with Dana Buoy, 8 pm, \$77-\$85

NEUMOS Breaks & Swells, Grace Love, High Pulp, 8 pm, \$10/\$12

OCCIDENTAL SQUARE Star Anna, 12-1:30 pm, free

★ **RE-BAR** Soul-Fi, 10 pm, \$0-\$10

★ **SHOWBOX SODO** One OK Rock with Palisades, 8 pm, \$27.50

SLIM'S LAST CHANCE Hillbilly Headbangers Ball VII, 8 pm-1 am

SUBSTATION Eos, Leadeater, Urghun, Meridian Arc, 8 pm, \$10; Cosmic Shuffle, Purple, Marble, 8 pm, \$8

SUNSET TAVERN Pampa, 9 pm, \$10

TIM'S TAVERN The Drolls, Going Away, Power Cowards, Lake Joanna, 8 pm, \$7

★ **TRACTOR TAVERN** ReBirth Brass Band, 9 pm, \$25

★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Lady Rizo, 8 pm, \$20/\$25

VICTORY LOUNGE Witch Ripper, Old Man Wizard, Blame The Wizards, Of The Heavy Sun, 8:30 pm, \$5/\$8

JAZZ
CONOR BYRNE Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio, 9 pm-midnight, \$8

★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Lady Rizo, 8 pm, \$20/\$25

DJ
ASTON MANOR House Party Fridays, 10 pm-2 am, \$20

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TRINITY Massive Fridays, free

VERMILLION Wildstyle, 10 pm, free; Session Fridays, 10 pm-2 am, free

W SEATTLE DJ Explorateur + DJ Pepperazz, 9:30 pm-1:30 am, free

CLASSICAL/OPERA

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL
★ Summer Organ Recital Series: Richard Elliott, 7 pm, \$15

SAT 8/19

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA The Good Co., 7 pm, \$6/\$8
BLUE MOON TAVERN Fallow Noise, Yr Parents, F Boy, Guests, 9 pm, \$5
★ **CENTENNIAL FIELDS PARK** Gigantic Bicycle Festival, \$35-\$70
CENTRAL SALOON Pin Pon Dash, Wild Arms, Kim Gray, 8 pm-midnight, \$5/\$8
★ **CHAPEL PERFORMANCE** SPACE Neal Kosaly-Meyer: *Gradus*, 8 pm, \$5-\$15
CROCODILE D'Madd, Ahmed, Stefano, Huey P, Wanz, 8:30 pm, \$20-\$40
EL CORAZON Thou Shall Kill, The Morning After, Dilapidation, URDR, Religicide, 7 pm, \$10/\$12
★ **THE FUNHOUSE** Thread The Sky, Ergo I Exist, 8 pm, \$8/\$10
HIGH DIVE Jelly Bread, Whitney Mongé, Heather Thomas, 8 pm, \$8/\$12
HIGHWAY 99 Doctorfunk, 8 pm, \$20
★ **HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN LOCKS** 2017 Chittenden Locks Summer Concert Series, free
★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Mark O'Connor with the O'Connor Band, 9:30 pm, \$41.50
★ **MOORE THEATRE** Layne Staley Tribute 2017, 8 pm, \$25-\$50
★ **NECTAR** Bowie A to Z with BowieVision and DJ Atticus, 8 pm, \$15/\$20
★ **NEUMOS** Mew with Monakr, 7 pm, \$25
★ **SAFECO FIELD** Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers, The Lumineers, 7:30 pm, \$49-\$149
★ **SHOWBOX SODO** Kip Moore with Jacob Davis, 9 pm, \$35/\$38
SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB Dyr and Sir Nicolas, 8-11 pm, \$6
SLIM'S LAST CHANCE Hillbilly Headbangers Ball VII, 8 pm-1 am
SUBSTATION Greenriver Thrillers, Stereo Creeps, Mulder, It's Me, TBASA, 8 pm, \$10
★ **SUMMIT PUBLIC HOUSE** Mercer X Summit Block Party, 2 pm-12 am, free
SUNSET TAVERN Dirty Dirty, Killer Workout, Wild English, 9 pm, \$10
TEATRO DE LA PSYCHOMACHIA Quiver / Wtrbel "Serve the Earth", 8-11 pm, \$5-\$15 suggested
TIM'S TAVERN The Upper Strata, 8 pm
TRACTOR TAVERN Lo Tom, TW Walsh, Chris Staples, 9 pm, \$15
★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Jr Cadillac, 8 pm, \$25
★ **VERA PROJECT** Fantasy A, AK-47, 8 pm, \$10
VICTORY LOUNGE Slowcode, Slumberbox, Tough Gang, Graze, 8:30 pm, \$5/\$8

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BARBOZA The Good Co., 7 pm, \$6/\$8

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DJ

ASTON MANOR NRG Saturdays, 10 pm-2 am, free

BARBOZA Hey Now, 10:30 pm, free

CHOP SUEY Dance Yourself Clean, 9 pm, Free/\$5

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THE EAGLE Singlet Party, 9 pm-1 am, \$6/\$8

FOUNDATION Elevate Saturdays, \$15-30

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NEIGHBOURS Powermix, 8 pm-4 am, \$5

PONY Meat, 9 pm, free

RE-BAR Ceremony, 10 pm-2 am, \$5

STAGE SEATTLE Vice Saturdays, 10 pm-2 am, Free/\$15

TRINITY Reload Saturdays, 9 pm, free

VERMILLION Pad Pushers, 9 pm, free

CLASSICAL/OPERA

CHAPEL

PERFORMANCE SPACE

Neal Kosaly-Meyer: *Gradus*, 8 pm, \$5-\$15

SUN 8/20

LIVE MUSIC

★ **CENTENNIAL FIELDS PARK** Gigantic Bicycle Festival, \$35-\$70

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SUBSTATION We Are Not Mel Tormel, Graze, The Arnolds, 8 pm, \$8

SUNSET TAVERN Western War, Panther Attack, Noon Moon, 8 pm, \$8

TIM'S TAVERN Tim McNary, 8 pm

● **VERA PROJECT** Fire Nuns, Swamp Meat, Dim Wit, Suzi Jacuzzi, 7:30 pm, \$6/\$8

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KREMWERK Fraktured, 9 pm-2 am, \$10

MONKEY LOFT Studio 4/4, 4-10 pm, \$5/\$10

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PONY The World's Tiniest Tea Dance, 4-9 pm, free

R PLACE Homo Hop, 10 pm

★ **RE-BAR** Flammable: DJ Wesley Holmes, Xan Lucero, and Guests, 10 pm-3 am, \$10

★ **TIMBRE ROOM** World Beat Sundays, 4-9 pm, \$5

CLASSICAL/OPERA

★ ● **ST. MARK'S CATHEDRAL** Compline Choir, 9:30 pm, free

MON 8/21

LIVE MUSIC

CROCODILE David Cook with Kathryn Dean, 7 pm, \$25-\$90

THE FUNHOUSE Pop Warner, 8 pm, \$6/\$8

SUNSET TAVERN Sun Dummy, Rego, Thank You, 8 pm, \$8

★ **TRACTOR TAVERN** Kevin Morby and Shannon Lay, 9 pm, \$15

● **TRIPLE DOOR** Matthew Sweet with Tommy Keene, 7:30 pm, \$28-\$38

VAN VORST PLAZA Grace Love, 4:30-6 pm, free

JAZZ

TULA'S pH Factor Big Band, 7:30 pm, \$10

DJ

BALTIC ROOM Jam Jam, 9 pm, \$10

★ **BAR SUE** Motown on Mondays, 10 pm, free

★ **KREMWERK** Family Meal with The Kipples, 8 pm-midnight, \$8

PONY Rock and Roll Queer Bar, 9 pm, free

TUE 8/22

LIVE MUSIC

● **CROCODILE** The Rocket Summer with 888, 7 pm, \$17

DOWNTOWN SEATTLE Allison Shirk, 12-1:30 pm, free

HIGH DIVE The Kickback, Black Ferns, Sharklegs, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

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SUBSTATION Wall of Ears, Miss Jupiter, Little Child Man, 10 pm, \$8

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● **TRIPLE DOOR** Sawyer Fredericks, Gabriel Wolfchild and The Northern Lights, Haley Johnsen, 7:30 pm, \$20/\$25

● **VERA PROJECT** Stepdads, Meat Creature, Anime Creek, 8 pm, \$6/\$8

JAZZ

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MUSIC



BARSUK

Indie-Rock Vets Lo Tom Are Low-Key

So Don't Call Them a Supergroup

BY AMBER CORTES

Whatever you do, don't call Lo Tom a "supergroup." Band leader Dave Bazan, for one, is embarrassed by it.

"Supergroup made us all laugh," he says. "Cause if the record gets announced as a supergroup thing, people will expect something that sort of... implies intention on our part. And I think with this project all we ever intended to do was just have fun together."

But the other three members of Lo Tom—who released their self-titled debut album in July—are TW Walsh, Jason Martin, and Trey Many, all staples of the Christian indie-rock set brought forth by Tooth & Nail Records in the 1990s (the label is now headquartered in Seattle). Bazan played in Pedro the Lion, Walsh in Pedro the Lion and the Soft Drugs, Martin in Starflyer 59, and Many in Velour 100 and Starflyer 59.

Over the years, Bazan, Walsh, Martin, and Many have frequently played in one another's bands (like Bon Voyage and the Headphones) and solo projects (T.W. Walsh and David Bazan). In fact, there's so much cross-over that they needed a flow chart. So why not admit to being a "supergroup," then?

"I guess it didn't really occur to us when we were doing it that it would be seen that way—like this is Dave Bazan's new band, or people are reuniting, or these bands are coming together to form a Mega Voltron of indie rock?" jokes guitarist Walsh.

"I think it was definitely more of a side project for us," says Walsh. "Especially considering the collective number of records that we've sold over the years, the whole 'supergroup' thing is kind of hilarious."

Still, between the four members of Lo Tom, it is a bit like a reunion. Back in the day, the group of friends gravitated to one another while on tour or around the scene.

"We always sought each other out. The four of us would play cards, we played a lot of this really great gambling game called

Skipjack together in lieu of poker, and we just had so much fun," says Bazan.

Beyond the fun was also a creative opportunity to make music in a way that felt easy and painless—and to bring their collective 125 years of music-playing experience into two extended weekend hang sessions in Orange County studios—one in 2014 and the other last spring.

"All of us have individually and collectively to some degree been making so many records over the years," Bazan explains, "and there's not that many opportunities for that expertise that you build up to come to bear on a project in a way that is fast and fun, and also kind of lubricated by the fact that everybody just really, really loves hanging out."

What's funny is that this low-key melding of the minds resulted in eight songs that sound a lot like what would happen if four indie rockers from the 1990s all made some music together: fuzzy, guitar-heavy hooks, that nostalgic "alt" feel (ah, remember when "alt" meant something else entirely?), and the occasional ironic nod to guitar rock gods Led Zeppelin and AC/DC. It's a return to basics, maybe, but also a great-sounding album that was relatively effortless to make because Lo Tom's members are such seasoned musicians.

"Overboard," for example, brings all the poetry of Bazan's lyrics forward with crisp, hammering bass and Many's slow and steady drums. "It just takes a while for me to unfeel a thing," sings Bazan. I mean, that sounds pretty '90s to me!

"It wasn't really a conceptual choice. It wasn't like we're going to do the meta version of '90s rock band," says Walsh. "You've got to do something that everybody is going to agree on. And what's the shared vernacular that we have? What we have is that we were all playing guitar music in the '90s."

And, of course, Skipjack. ■



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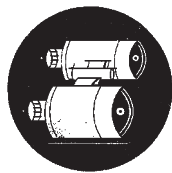
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THEATER



NITE SKOOL *The '90s called and they've got a few things to tell you about social justice.*

Nite Skool at Annex Theatre Is Hilarious, or at Least the First Half Is

You Have My Permission to Leave at Intermission

BY RICH SMITH

When *Nite Skool's* ensemble turned the phrase “gender is a weapon of the patriarchy” into a hilarious grade-school singing-along that also made a convincing case for using the word “they” as a singular pronoun, I thought: “Wow. They’ve done it. Writer Max Kirchner and ‘neo-burlesque’ theater group the Libertinis found some humor in the often humorless world of self-described SJW killjoys.”

On a 1990s-colored set reminiscent of *Saved by the Bell*, eight performers with great 1990s character names like Tanya and Brogan and Mickey cycled through several skits. Each skit was set up like a class in one of the core subjects—English, history, sex-ed, and, blissfully, lunch, etc. But instead of giving you the white conqueror’s version of each of those subjects, they give you the progressive, anti-colonialist, anti-racist, anti-sexist, sex-positive, body-positive narrative that they only teach you on Tumblr.

Following an ultra-bright opening number that established the show’s cheeky tone, first period featured a series of humorously reductive summaries of canonical literary masterpieces, which culminated in Brogan (Woody Shticks) mounting a full-throated defense of Jodi Picoult’s *The Pact*. He was advocating for the right of one of the characters to “bone competent firemen,” and he was doing it while rocking a Freddie Mercury mustache and pink Daisy Dukes. It was a sight to behold. I was just as pleased watching Stacy (Hattie Hellkat) give a radical feminist takedown of J.D. Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye*.

All I remember of the lunchroom dance skit was a giant bottle of ranch dressing ejaculating on a submissive salad, an actor in a pizza costume dancing with another actor in a peanut butter and jelly costume, and a vat

of meat that Betty (Tootsie Spangles) developed an intimate relationship with.

As I ran for a glass of water at intermission—they are never going to air-condition the Annex, and they never should—I couldn’t see how this funny, punchy, lively crew could keep the show alive for a whole second act.

Turned out they couldn’t. At least not in the performance I saw. With the exception of a number that had Woody Shticks tap-dancing in a gold Speedo and top hat while talking about the “disaster math” he has to do to manage his mountains of student-loan debt in a sad but brilliant display about how the culture doesn’t value the thing he’s good at, the didactic skits began to drag on and on.

The problem was radical inclusion. There were eight performers, and every performer participated individually in all the major skits. Every actor got to say a little thing about sex education, every actor got to humorously summarize and skewer a canonical piece of literature, every actor got to teach their little lesson about X. It’s worth mentioning that each night there is a different surprise “substitute teacher” who does a 5 to 10 minute bit of stand-up or storytelling.

By the second act, even the very supportive audience seemed to get tired of patting themselves on the back for agreeing that, indeed, depression is an illness that deserves serious consideration, and that, indeed, orgasms don’t have to be the point of sex. Though we should be radically inclusive in our politics, creating a piece of art demands radical exclusion and the killing of darlings for the sake of pace and humor.

But listen, the first act is worth the price of admission. ■

Nite Skool
Annex Theatre
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The problem was radical inclusion. Every actor got to teach their little lesson about X.

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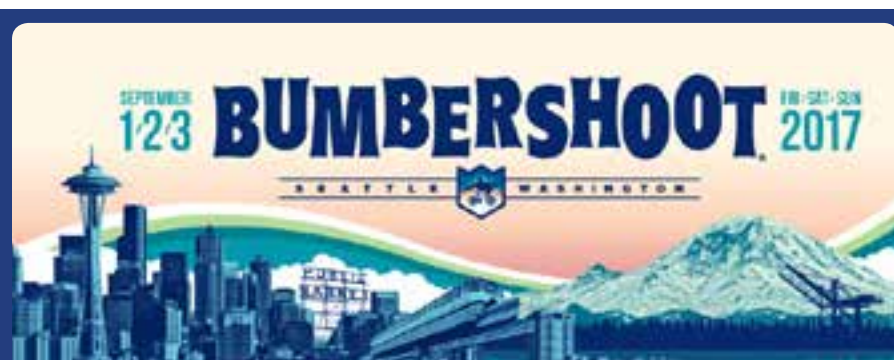
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Steven Soderbergh's *Logan Lucky* Is Ocean's *Eleven* in Trump-merica

BY SEAN NELSON

You may be wondering why all the advance press about Steven Soderbergh's return to feature filmmaking after a well-publicized "retirement" in 2013 has focused on the film's distribution business plan. I, too, wondered about this, but allowed my excitement about the return of one of my all-time favorite directors to shout down the quandary.

Then I saw the film.

Logan Lucky is a caper movie that combines the style and sensibility of Soderbergh's biggest crowd pleasers (*Ocean's Eleven*, *Out of Sight*) with the dusty Southern outlaw vibe of 1970s films like *White Lightning* or *Moonrunners*. The result is an odd hybrid of masterful filmmaking and a kind of culture jamming impulse that walks a tightrope between savviness and condescension.

Actually, condescension isn't quite right. But the red state drag show that Soderbergh has convened here feels not merely unconvincing, but a tiny bit uncomfortable, too.

That is to say: a bunch of fantastically talented and beautiful movie stars (Channing Tatum, Adam Driver, Riley Keough, Daniel Craig) working really hard to seem at home in NASCAR America, where the American flag battles camo for fashion primacy, where people play toilet seat horseshoes, and an interminably melismatic rendition of "America the Beautiful" by LeAnn Rimes as Blue Angels roar overhead brings grown men to tears.

It's a stretch.

Tatum (Soderbergh's De Niro... or maybe his DiCaprio?) plays Jimmy Logan, a perfectly well-meaning single dad in West Virginia who gets fired from his job on a construction/excavation site when his foreman sees him walking with a limp—preexisting condition. Jimmy enlists his slow-talking bartender brother Clyde (Driver), whose preexisting condition is the forearm he lost in Iraq, his hairdresser sister Mellie (Keough), and a motley assortment of accomplices to rob the Charlotte Motor Speedway on the day of the Coca-Cola 600, thus breaking the Logan family curse.

The heist, like the ones in Soderbergh's *Ocean's* series, is elaborately planned, constructed, and executed, and all of *Logan Lucky's* comedy, drama, and tension arise from the ingeniously plotted network of obstacles, misdirections, and hiccups that stand between our heroes and their quarry.

Unlike the Vegas-based jobs in those earlier films, however, it's the lowest of low-tech operations, made of the same shoddy materials as the rest of the characters' Walmart lives. This makes for some excellent visual gags (a bomb-making primer involving a plastic grocery bag is especially inventive) and a prevailing air of mischief. It's also a

very conspicuous way for Soderbergh to comment on his own past without disowning it. He seems to be having fun, which is great news if you like him in fun mode.

And yet, the podunk milieu in which *Logan Lucky* is set feels overstated, like a New Yorker taking a selfie in front of a Stuckey's. It's not that the wardrobe and production design aren't accurate—with their bulk tubs of cheese puffs, baseball cap logos, and camo rainbow—it's that they're *too* accurate. The film is having it both ways, flaunting the garish, rural tackiness while playing it for laughs. Look at these rednecks. These noble rednecks.

Many of the actors, Tatum and Driver most notably, struggle mightily with their accents.

Though both Tatum and Soderbergh are Southern-born, Keough—in a purely Daisy Duke role—is the only person in the film who sounds like she's even flown over West Virginia or either Carolina. Maybe it's her Elvis Presley DNA.

Craig fares better with the dialect, but

Logan Lucky
dir. Steven Soderbergh



LOGAN LUCKY Neck. Red Neck.

he also has a bleach job that looks like it gets touched up every 12 hours at \$500 a pop—not easy for a man in prison. Seth MacFarlane, who always ruins everything anyway, is spectacularly poor as an energy-drink magnate with terrible hair and the worst British accent you've heard since your high-school drama club reenacted the dead parrot sketch. When Dwight Yoakam shows up as the warden, you almost cheer to see someone who's actually Southern.

But the real question throughout is this: What makes this material—and, more to the point, this community—interesting to Soderbergh? It can't be as facile as building bridges between the libtard bubble and Trump-merica—either culturally or commercially. And if it were, the film would be a failure, because all you see is the chasm.

No, I think *Logan Lucky* is an argument for formalism, and the durability of genre. It makes the case that a commercial feature film can be fun and profitable regardless of what—or who—it's about, if you do it properly.

It's a compelling case, too. It's just not quite the right film. ■

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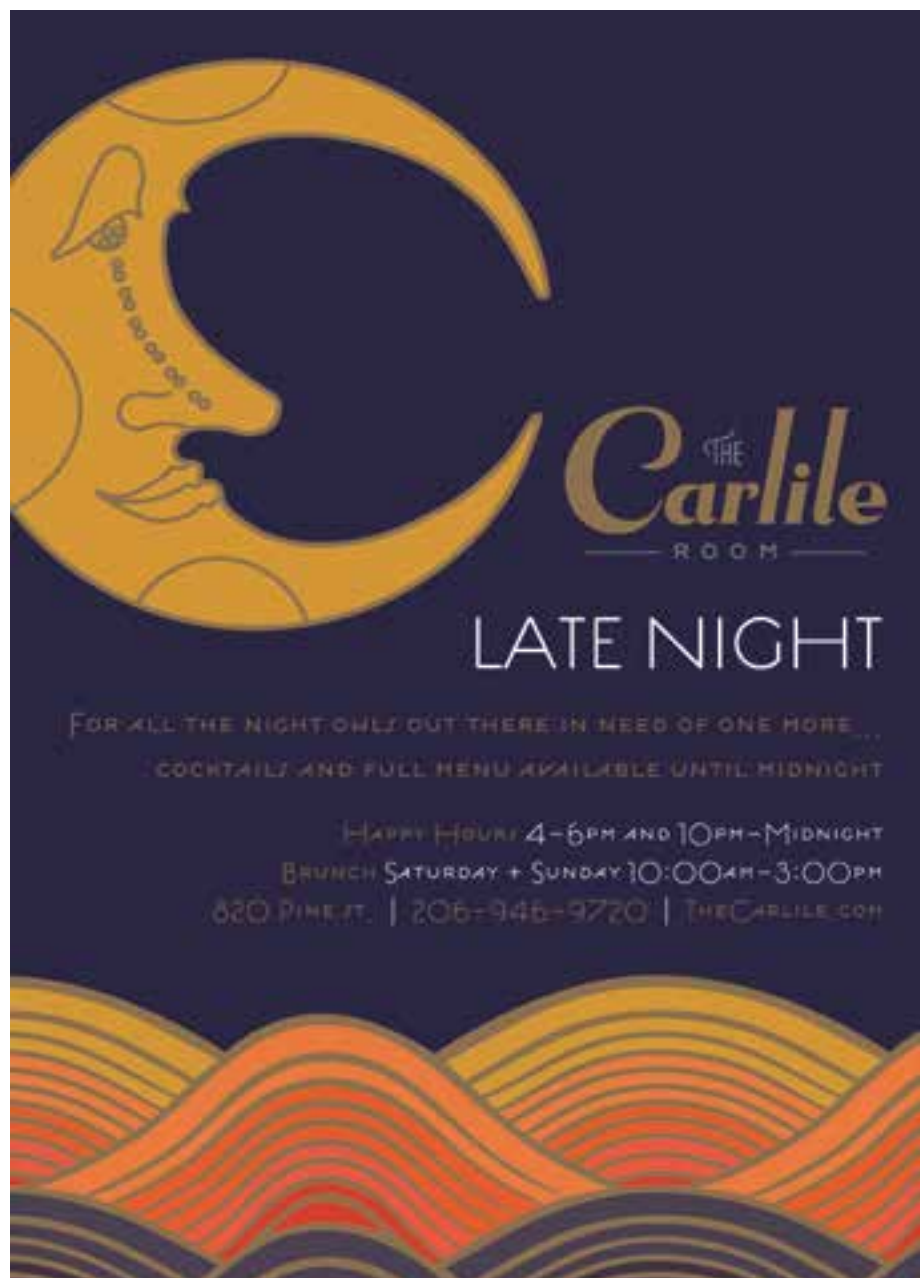
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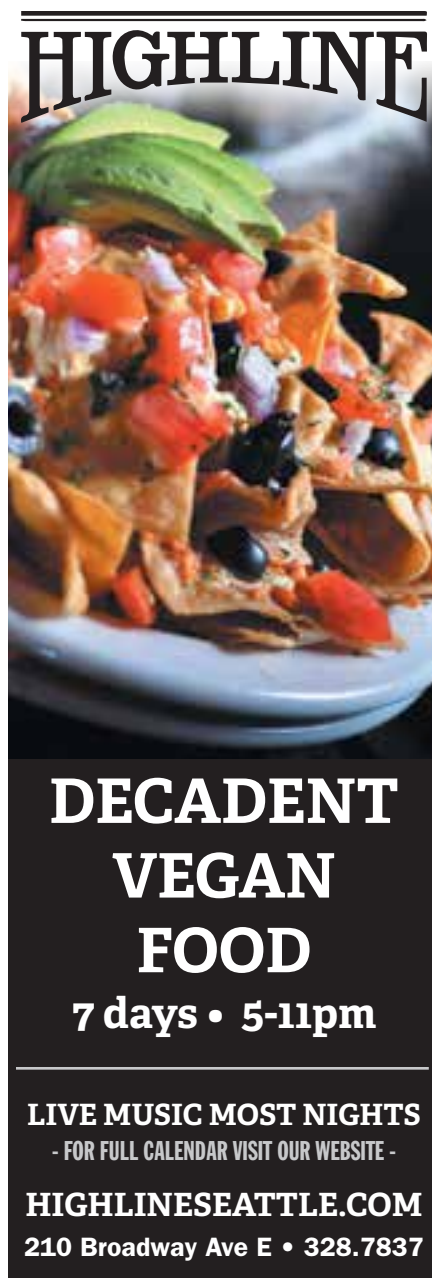


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Mbar Drinks with a view.

SUZI PRATT

Sure, Go to Mbar to Party

But Don't Go There to Eat

BY TOBIAS COUGHLIN-BOGUE

Before visiting, all I really knew about Mbar was that it was an extremely buzzy collaboration between the Haroun family, owners of the popular Middle Eastern fusion restaurant Mamnoon, and Jason Stratton, the chef who brought Spinasse to glory. I was prepared for a bit of pomp, given that it was billed as “the definitive Seattle rooftop restaurant experience”

and serves the city's nouveau riche tech elites.

Mbar is definitely a trip, I'll give it that. The entire restaurant is on a rooftop, so the gated-community vibe is strong from the beginning. Exacerbating that is the waiting room, where patrons are divided into two lines as they approach the host stand: reservations and peasants... er, walk-ins.

Anyway, just as our coveted Friday night patio table became available, our party of two peasants became four. To their credit, the hosting staff was very pleasant about it and shuffled things around to accommodate us immediately. To their discredit, apparently shuffling things around meant putting four people at an already impossibly small two-top. If we were just drinking, which the tech bros and broettes that make up the bulk of Mbar's Friday night patio crowd were doing, it would have been fine. Instead, I was there to sample a few items from their limited patio menu.

About those items: They were all bad.

A nondescript salad of fancy lettuces with walnut, anchovy, and tarragon was completely devoid of any flavors resembling anchovy or tarragon. There were some cracked walnuts. It was \$11. For 18 more dollars, we

got a sad charcuterie plate, baguette not included. Three dollars got us about five slices. The cauliflower hummus came with an insufficient number of weak, crumbly crostini and a few oblong slices of cucumber. A dish

of seared tuna with avocado, sumac, labneh, and fenugreek was just an overdone piece of fish perched atop a random array of spiceless avocado and labneh. It tasted

as bland as it looked. We were not asked how done we would like our \$33 skirt steak, but apparently medium is house standard. It came with a pile of spicy mixed greens that were less spicy than limp.

To be fair, the frazzled service staff stayed remarkably pleasant while sprint-walking around a patio full of drunk people posing for selfies. They even managed to move us to a real four-top so we

could eat, while our tiny metal cocktail table was combined with a twin to fit a group of eight there to slurp \$13 cocktails.

On my second visit, I made a reservation for the dining room, in hopes that the full menu would have some hidden gems I hadn't been able to access on the patio. It was a Tuesday and there was no line, so I didn't get to enjoy my status as a reservation holder, but it was nice to miss some of the chaos. That said, the place was still full, and the patio was still packed with patrons in expensive wraparound shades and skintight, pineapple-print dresses. A large party in the corner of the patio posed for group pictures, while a three-top snapped selfies that will almost certainly be hashtagged #blessed.

We sat at an odd little metal table by the ►

Mbar is definitely a trip, I'll give it that. The entire restaurant is on a rooftop.

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◀ window, which was like the vestigial tail of our server's section, and I knew after the first sip of tepid bing-cherry and beet gazpacho that we were in for a less than stellar experience. The gazpacho promised piquillo pepper, which turned out to be a single pepper on a skewer. It was artfully arranged next to four little bing cherry halves, and the gazpacho itself arrived in a carafe on the side, to be poured after a few minutes of basking in the majesty of Stratton's artistic plating. I would rather have basked in the majesty of a gazpacho with some actual texture and bite, or at least a pinch of salt.

After wallowing in that bland, red lake, we were quickly whisked to the opposite end of the salt spectrum by Stratton's collard greens, which were seasoned into oblivion. I could write another thousand words about what was wrong with the offensively salty tagliatelle in huckleberry marinara, vodka, and basil, but I'll just quote my companion, who informed me in a shocked whisper, "This tastes like Chef Boyardee." It was baffling, because the man responsible for this tagliatelle nearly won a James Beard Award for his pasta at Spinasse. The last course was salmon, which was cooked

well, but it was served with a bread salad as coherent as a Trump tweet.

Mbar is basically a nightclub with food. This should have been obvious, and not just because of the cordoned-off line at the door. There's also a DJ booth, the entire patio is strung with black-light bulbs, and the hallway from the elevator to the restaurant looks like the set for an overdose scene in a movie about rave culture. The nearly never-ending stream of modern club rap on rotation should also have been a dead giveaway. (For the record, there's nothing more emblematic of late capitalism than a six-top of old, rich, white dudes decanting wine while listening to "Nï**as in Paris.")

Viewed in this context, the so-so food and scattered service make a lot more sense, as do the "Rosé All Day" shirts and hordes of shitfaced-by-8-p.m. tech types. The price of the food, then, does not reflect its quality but that it is a "hot spot." Indeed, it felt foolish to spend \$150 on such an overwhelmingly underwhelming dinner for two, but fools and their money are easily parted. I can't exactly fault Mbar for that, especially when said fools seem to be enjoying the experience so much. ■

Mbar is basically a nightclub with food. This should have been obvious from the cordoned-off line at the door, the patio strung with black-light bulbs, and the nearly never-ending stream of modern club rap on rotation.

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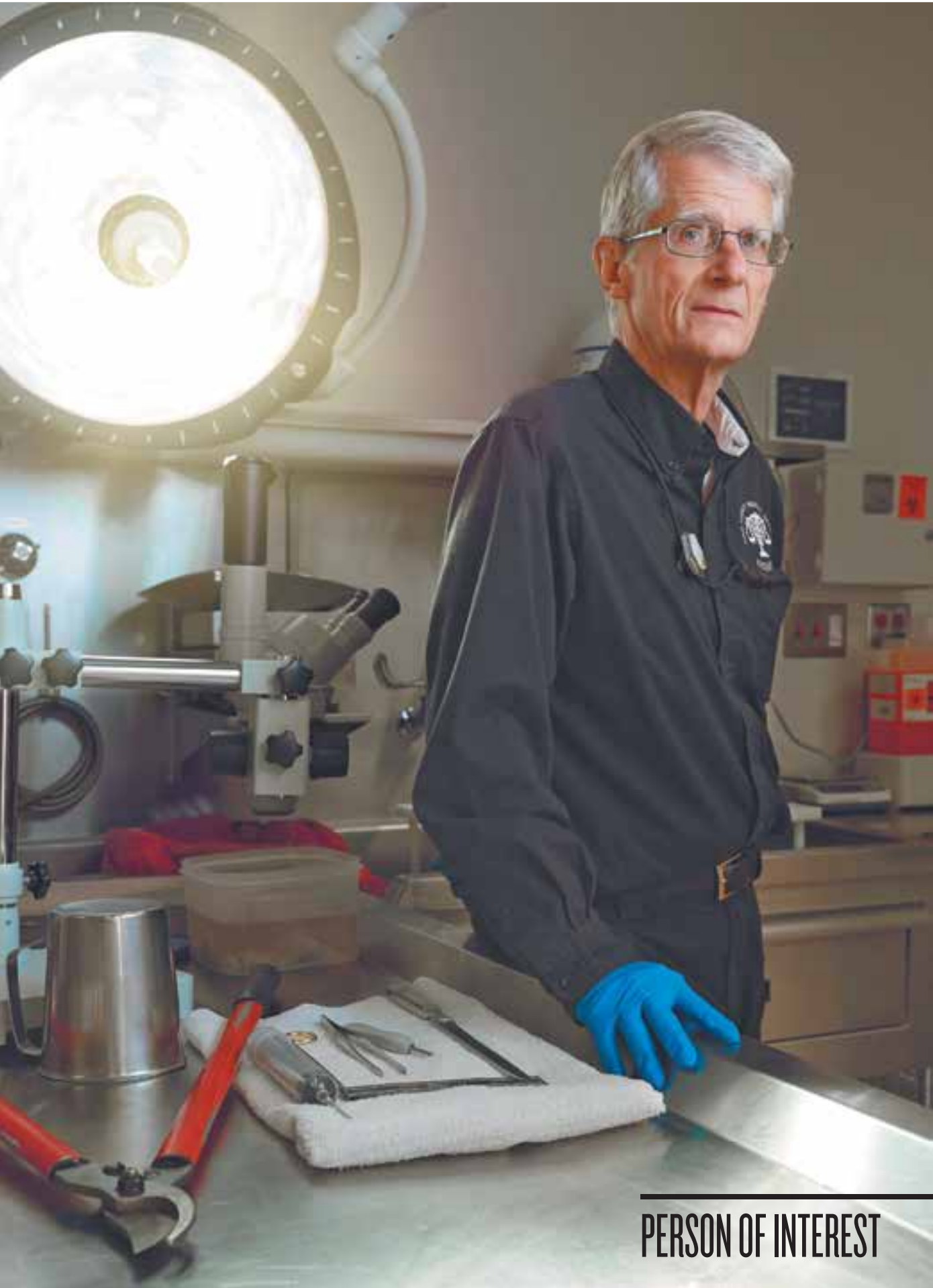
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Dr. Richard Harruff
King County Medical Examiner

INTERVIEW BY TESS RISKI
PHOTO BY STANTON STEPHENS

So you’re the person who finds himself at the center of the 1,500 unnatural deaths that occur in the county annually. What’s your favorite part of the job?
Interacting with different people on a level well beyond the superficial.

Least favorite?
Dealing with bureaucracy.

What’s your opinion on the American funeral industry?

I don’t know if I’d want that printed; somebody might read it. Let me say it delicately: It’s a reflection of how we honor our dead and also a reflection of our inability to let go.

Is there any language people use about the deceased that offends you?
I don’t like people calling them “corpses.” It just sounds like it’s pieces of things. These are the remnants of humans. I like the word “decedents.”

Do you consider yourself to be a detective?
Some people classify us as “medical

detectives,” but I don’t really put much of a term to it. I’m just a dumb forensic pathologist.

Do you believe in ghosts?
I’d like to, but I haven’t seen any evidence of it. I think it would be pretty cool. But it’s probably best if I don’t. That would be too freaky, to think that all these dead people that I see are floating around somewhere.

Do you think ghosts would hang around a morgue?
It would be hard to get people to hang around here if you aren’t paying them. ■

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY
BY ROB BREZSNY

For the Week of August 16

ARIES (March 21–April 19): “To disobey in order to take action is the byword of all creative spirits,” said philosopher Gaston Bachelard. This mischievous advice is perfect for your use right now, Aries. I believe you’ll thrive through the practice of ingenious rebellion—never in service to your pride, but always to feed your soul’s lust for deeper, wilder life. Here’s more from Bachelard: “Autonomy comes through many small disobediences, at once clever, well thought-out, and patiently pursued, so subtle at times as to avoid punishment entirely.”

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Congratulations! I expect that during the next three weeks, you will be immune to what psychoanalyst Joan Chodorow calls “the void of sadness, the abyss of fear, the chaos of anger, and the alienation of contempt and shame.” I realize that what I just said might sound like an exaggeration. Aren’t all of us subject to regular encounters with those states? How could you possibly go so long without brushing up against them? I stand by my prediction, and push even further. For at least the next three weeks, I suspect you will also be available for an inordinate amount of what Chodorow calls “the light of focused insight” and “the playful, blissful, all-embracing experience of joy.”

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): The coming days would an excellent time to celebrate (even brag about) the amusing idiosyncrasies and endearing quirks that make you lovable. To get you inspired, read this testimony from my triple Gemini friend Alyssa: “I have beauty marks that form the constellation Pegasus on my belly. I own my own ant farm. I’m a champion laughter. I teach sign language to squirrels. Late at night when I’m horny and overtired, I may channel the spirit of a lion goddess named Sekhmet. I can whistle the national anthems of eight different countries. I collect spoons from the future. I can play the piano with my nose and my toes. I have forever banished the green-eyed monster to my closet.”

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Your education may take unusual forms during the coming weeks. For example, you could receive crunchy lessons from velvety sources, or tender instructions from exacting challenges. Your curiosity might expand to enormous proportions in the face of a noble and elegant tease. And chances are good that you’ll find a new teacher in an unlikely setting, or be prodded and tricked into asking crucial questions you’ve been neglecting to ask. Even if you haven’t been particularly street smart up until now, Cancerian, I bet your ability to learn from uncategorizable experiences will blossom.

LEO (July 23–Aug 22): “If you love someone, set them free,” said new-age author Richard Bach. “If they come back, they’re yours; if they don’t, they never were.” By using my well-educated intellect to transmute this hippie-dippy thought into practical advice, I came up with a wise strategy for you to consider as you reevaluate your relationships with allies. Try this: Temporarily suspend any compulsion you might have to change or fix these people; do your best to like them and even love them exactly as they are. Ironically, granting them this freedom to be themselves may motivate them to modify, or at least tone down, the very behavior in themselves that you’re semi-allergic to.

VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22): In 1892, workers began building the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York. But as of August 2017, it is still under construction. Renovation has been and continues to be extensive. At one point in its history, designers even changed its architectural style from Neo-Byzantine and Neo-Romanesque to Gothic Revival. I hope this serves as a pep talk in the coming weeks, which will be an excellent time to evaluate your own progress, Virgo. As you keep toiling away on behalf of your dreams, there’s no rush. In fact, my sense is that you’re proceeding at precisely the right rate.

LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22): In accordance with the astrological omens, I hereby declare the next two weeks to be your own personal Amnesty Holiday. To celebrate, ask for and dole out forgiveness. Purge and flush away any nonessential guilt and remorse that are festering inside you. If there truly are hurtful sins that you still haven’t atoned for, make a grand effort to atone for them—with gifts and heartfelt messages if necessary. At the same time, I urge you to identify accusations that others have wrongly projected onto you and that you have carried around as a burden even though they are not accurate or fair. Expunge them.

SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21): How many countries has the United States bombed since the end of World War II? Twenty-five, to be exact. But if America’s intention has been to prod these nations into forming more free and egalitarian governments, the efforts have been mostly fruitless. Few of the attacked nations have become substantially more democratic. I suggest you regard this as a valuable lesson to apply to your own life in the coming weeks, Scorpio. Metaphorical bombing campaigns wouldn’t accomplish even 10 percent of your goals, and would also be expensive in more ways than one. So I recommend using the “killing with kindness” approach. Be wily and generous. Cloak your coaxing in compassion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21): You know about the Ten Commandments, a code of ethics and behavior that’s central to Christianity and Judaism. You may not be familiar with my Ten Suggestions, which begin with “Thou Shall Not Bore God” and “Thou Shall Not Bore Thyself.” Then there are the Ten Indian Commandments proposed by the Bird Clan of East Central Alabama. They include “Give assistance and kindness whenever needed” and “Look after the well-being of your mind and body.” I bring these to your attention, Sagittarius, because now is an excellent time to formally formulate and declare your own covenant with life. What are the essential principles that guide you to the highest good?

CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19): Here’s a definition of “fantasizing” as articulated by writer Jon Carroll. It’s “a sort of ‘in-brain’ television, where individuals create their own ‘shows’—imaginary narratives that may or may not include real people.” As you Capricorns enter the High Fantasy Season, you might enjoy this amusing way of describing the activity that you should cultivate and intensify. Would you consider cutting back on your consumption of movies and TV shows? That might inspire you to devote more time and energy to watching the stories you can generate in your mind’s eye.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18): In 43 cartoon stories, the coyote named Wile E. Coyote has tried to kill and devour the swift-running flightless bird known as the Road Runner. Every single time, Wile E. has failed to achieve his goal. It’s apparent to astute observers that his lack of success is partly due to the fact that he doesn’t rely on his natural predatory instincts. Instead, he concocts elaborate, overly complicated schemes. In one episode, he camouflages himself as a cactus, buys artificial lightning bolts, and tries to shoot himself from a bow as if he were an arrow. All these plans end badly. The moral of the story, as far as you’re concerned: To reach your next goal, trust your instincts.

PISCES (Feb 19–March 20): You temporarily have cosmic permission to loiter and goof off and shirk your duties. To be a lazy bum and meander aimlessly and avoid tough decisions. To sing off-key and draw stick figures and write bad poems. To run slowly and flirt awkwardly and dress like a slob. Take advantage of this opportunity, because it’s available only for a limited time. It’s equivalent to pushing the reset button. It’s meant to reestablish your default settings. But don’t worry about that now: simply enjoy the break in the action. ■

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